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Strike over for museum employees

LABOUR After 86 days on strike, workers from the Canadian Museum of Civilization and the Canadian War Museum are back on the job today. Workers voted yesterday to accept the deal between the Public Service Alliance of Canada and the Canadian Museum of Civilization Corp.

PSAC said the four-year agreement includes: The guarantee that no indeterminate employee will be laid off as a result of contracting out; new job security provisions; seven new part-time positions to be filled internally, based on seniority and current job titles; and new clauses for parental leave.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

News on the Move

What's this barcode for?
Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

Canada pg 6

Grits sorry over photo

On the web
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Golden Globes **And the nominees are...**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Clockwise from top left: Actors George Clooney and Sandra Bullock are among the nominees for acting at this year's Golden Globes, while Steve Carell and Anna Paquin's respective television shows, The Office and True Blood, are also up for awards. Story, page 31.

'Systemic failures'

234 recommendations, no word on pedophile ring in inquiry report

There were 34 victims in a Cornwall child-molestation scandal, but even after a four-year, $53-million public inquiry no one knows if an organized pedophile ring was operating in eastern Ontario.

Commissioner G. Normand Glaude released his report yesterday, exposing "a combination of systemic failures, insensitivity to complaints, (and a) reluctance to act" on the part of church, school, police and justice officials.

That fuelled "speculation" — stoked by the media, and politicians making "inaccurate" statements — of a child molesters' ring at large in the area for years.

"I heard evidence that suggested that there were cases of joint abuse, passing of alleged victims, and possibly passive knowledge of abuse. I am not making a pronouncement on whether a ring existed or not," Glaude wrote in his 2,396-page report.

Glaude made 234 recommendations to various ministries, Cornwall police, Ontario Provincial Police, the local children's aid society, the Catholic church diocese, and area school boards.

He urged the provincial government to put $5 million into "healing and reconciliation" services in the Cornwall area over the next five years, along with initiatives to train staff at institutions to better handle abuse allegations.

The probe was the most expensive in Ontario history, costing more than five times the inquiry into the Walkerton tainted water tragedy. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Father of cyclist killed in crash calls for action on bicycle paths

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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It was exactly three months ago today that Melanie Harris died after being struck by an STO bus while cycling on a stretch of Sussex Drive.

Her father, Jim Harris, said Melanie was an avid cyclist who enjoyed riding to work during the spring and summer. The only part she didn't like was riding along Sussex Drive, where the bike path and bus lane co-mingle.

"That's really a silly way of trying to set up a bike path," Harris said. "The city now has a rationale for doing something, and I'd like to see something sooner rather than later."

Any delay in addressing the problem needlessly exposes others to the same unsafe conditions, said Harris.

At 4:30 p.m. today, Capital Ward Coun. Clive Doucet is hosting a candlelight memorial at the Laurier entrance of city hall for Harris and all cyclists who were injured or killed on city roads.

The memorial is a reminder that the cyclists were individuals who had families that were deeply affected by the collision, said Doucet. It is also a reminder that council has to start honouring its commitment to cyclists by investing in safe cycling infrastructure.

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Local

Carleton profs in TVO's top 20 lecturers

Two Carleton University professors have been named to the final 20 top lecturers in TVO's Big Ideas Best Lecturer Competition. The lectures of John Stead, a professor in the department of psychology, and Zeba Crook, a professor of religion in the College of the Humanities, will be among the 20 to be narrowed down to 10 by TVO staff and an independent jury. The lectures of the top 10 will air on TVO in March 2010. Now in its fifth year, the competition celebrates the most engaging and intellectually stimulating lecturers in Ontario. METRO OTTAWA

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News in brief

COLD With colder temperatures set for this week, the medical officer of health and Ottawa paramedics have issued a reminder to residents to dress appropriately. When temperatures reach -15 C, hypothermia is an increasing concern, and overexposure to the cold can result in severe injury or death. If residents see someone trying to live outdoors in extreme cold, they can call the Help for the Homeless Phone Line at 613-580-2626. METRO OTTAWA

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TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

Somerset Ward Coun. Diane Holmes, from left, Ottawa-Orleans MP Royal Galipeau, Ottawa-West Nepean MPP Jim Watson, Cornerstone director Sue Garvey, Ottawa-Centre MPP Yasir Naqvi and Rev. John Chapman, Anglican bishop of Ottawa, hold an artist's sketch of a new affordable housing complex to be built at 314 Booth St.

Affordable housing to be built for women

Stimulus project for 42 units to open in 2011

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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Construction of 42 new affordable housing units for disadvantaged women will begin this spring near Somerset and Booth streets.

Yesterday, federal, provincial and municipal officials announced $6 million in funding to build an apartment complex at 314 Booth St.

The economic stimulus project sponsored by Cornerstone/Le Pilier — a community organization dedicated to providing shelter and housing for women — is slated to open in early 2011.

"We will change the lives of 42 individuals in our community," said Ottawa-West Nepean MPP Jim Watson.

Mayor Larry O'Brien said the unit is a step forward in solving chronic homelessness issues. He said the continued co-operation with the federal and provincial governments will lead to many more similar projects for this city.

"Affordable housing is necessary in order to build a community that is healthy, strong and inclusive," said O'Brien.

Director of Cornerstone Sue Garvey said they wanted to build housing for women so they could stay there for many years.

Supportive services will also be provided along with the housing, said Somerset Coun. Diane Holmes.

"There will be some support for health services, counselling services and addiction services so that women can remain in the housing for the long term with the kind of support they need," said Holmes.

Garvey said they still need to ensure they have all the operating funding to make certain support programs are in place.

Disabled access

- Twenty of the units in the four-storey complex will be reserved for seniors and the complex will be fully accessible for people with disabilities.

Thieves in market for painkiller: Cops

TRACEY TONG
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Ottawa police are dealing with a slew of unsolved crimes after a demand for a highly addictive painkiller resulted in a string of pharmacy robberies over a one-month period.

Between Sept. 11 and Oct. 13, police investigated 20 drugstore robberies and four attempted robberies, all targeting OxyContin, one of the most potent painkillers on the market, said Staff Sgt. Don Sweet of the Ottawa Police Robbery Unit.

While in the past, robberies targeting the drug — dubbed "Hillbilly Heroin"— were usually perpetrated by addicts, Sweet said police believe these robberies are linked, and the drugs are sold on the streets through established distribution lines.

"This is way more than what we saw originally," he said. "You're always going to see addicted individuals, but this is a newer angle where, all of a sudden, we see a huge spike."

Priced according to the strength of the drug, the robberies prove "very lucrative" for criminals, Sweet added.

In Ottawa, 10, 20 and 40 mg tablets are sold for $20 to $40 a pill, while an 80 mg tablet fetches $40 to $50 per pill.

And it's not just pharmacies that have been targeted.

Police have investigated thefts of OxyContin from delivery trucks and pharmacy-related frauds where the perpetrators get elderly people to pick up the drugs.

"It's very sought after and criminals are seeking different ways of getting in," he said.

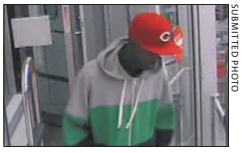
The majority of the robberies are perpetrated by younger black males using notes, Sweet said. Most of the robberies happen after 8 p.m. in the suburbs in the west and east ends of the city.

While there is no violence associated with these robberies, there is always the threat of violence, he said.

Police believe they have charged one of the "main players" in this operation, but are looking for the individuals performing these robberies.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sept. 25 at 8:27 p.m.



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Sept. 27 at 7:56 p.m.

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DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

New cop shop opens

Ottawa police are officially opening the doors of the new west division patrol station today. The station at 211 Huntmar Dr., which features 41,000 square feet of space on 5.6 acres of land, has been under construction for the last year. METRO OTTAWA

Hospitals brace for possible budget freeze

Local hospitals may be forced to make cuts to services in the new year if there is a budget freeze.

And if that happens, "preserving front line services should be the top priority," said Ontario PC Leader Tim Hudak.

"I think what is making Ottawa families rightfully upset is that they're paying more in taxes ... and seeing less in return," he said.

"We need to show some greater respect for taxpayer dollars," Hudak said.

Hospitals submitted their budget plans to the Champlain Local Health Integration Network yesterday. The submissions were based on a budget freeze, a one per cent and a two per cent budget increase.

While the provincial government will not set the hospital budgets until January, hospitals are not expecting the usual two per cent increase. And if there is a budget freeze, hospitals would have to find efficiencies in services in order to account for increased wage bills from collective bargaining agreements.

Like Hudak, Liberal MPP for Ottawa West-Nepean and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Jim Watson also understands "there are pressures that the hospitals are facing.

"Over the last six years, we've increased funding to hospitals by over $300 million," he said. "We're going to be fair to the hospital system just as we have been for the last six years and we look forward to the hospital CEOs working with the local integrated health network to come up with the best possible solution, not for the hospitals, not for the CEOs, but for the patients."

TRACEY TONG AND TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

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Highway signs set to take a cultural turn

COMMUNITY Visitors to Ottawa will have an easier time finding the city's Little Italy and Chinatown communities after new signs go up along the highways early next year.

"This initiative will make ... it easier for motorists to find and visit Ottawa's great cultural communities," said Ottawa West–Nepean MPP Jim Watson.

The Ministry of Transportation is partnering with the City of Ottawa, the Preston Street Business Improvement Association and the Somerset Street Chinatown Business Improvement Area to have five signs posted around the city — four on Highway 417 and one on Highway 416.

"These two areas are cornerstones of our community, and I am so pleased that we are recognizing their significance and directing visitors to them," said Ottawa Centre MPP Yasir Naqvi.

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

Sally Ann takes donations mobile

CHARITY People can make donations to the Salvation Army's Christmas Kettle campaign through kettles across Ottawa, online donations, and now, through their cellphones.

The charity has launched a national text message donation program aimed at raising funds for Canada's vulnerable and marginalized. Donors can text the word HOPE to 45678 from any Canadian mobile phone to make a $5 contribution to the Christmas campaign.

This is the first time that one of Canada's largest and best-respected charities has used mobile technology as a way to give. Money raised will directly support the more than 1.5 million people the Salvation Army serves year-round. More information is available at www.salvationarmy.ca.

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Warning about Roman shades and roll-up blinds issued

Health Canada is reminding people to be careful about using Roman shades and roll-up blinds due to the possible strangulation hazard they pose to children. The agency's warning today follows the recall of more than 50 million shades and blinds in the United States. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

No charges laid against sports doctor

The RCMP says no charges have been laid against Dr. Anthony Galea, left, a Canadian sports medicine doctor who has treated Donovan Bailey, NFL players and other athletic stars. RCMP spokesman Sgt. Marc LaPorte says police arrested Galea after a search warrant was executed on the Institute of Sports Medicine Health and Wellness Centre on Brown's Line near Toronto on Oct. 15. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Grits sorry for doctored photo

Harper depicted as Oswald in famous assassination picture

The federal Liberal party has apologized for posting a doctored photo on its website that depicts Prime Minister Stephen Harper being assassinated.

The photo — in which Harper's face was Photoshopped onto the famous picture of Lee Harvey Oswald being gunned down by Jack Ruby — was removed immediately after it began drawing public notice.

"It had no business being there," acknowledged Liberal party spokesman Daniel Lauzon.

Another fake photo, depicting Harper with his arm buried to the elbow in the wrong end of a cow, was also removed. Lauzon said the cow picture was meant to poke fun at the carbon emissions produced by bovine flatulence but was removed "due to the possibility of misinterpretation."

BOB JACKSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP-DALLAS TIMES-HERALD

The federal Liberal party has apologized for posting a doctored photo on its website that depicts Prime Minister Stephen Harper as the victim of a famous assassination. Harper's face was Photoshopped onto the famous picture of Jack Ruby gunning down Lee Harvey Oswald.

The photos had been part of a contest, in which the party invited people to make up humorous pictures portraying the prime minister's reluctance to participate in the Copenhagen climate-change summit.

The photos are "user-generated" and don't necessarily reflect the views of the party, said Lauzon — still, they are supposed to be screened by the party before they're posted.

"We do review them but that one admittedly slipped through the cracks," Lauzon said of the doctored photo of Oswald, who was shot by Ruby on Nov. 24, 1963, two days after Oswald was arrested for the assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada did not lose track of detainees: Cannon

AFGHANISTAN Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon is denying a report that Canada lost track of war prisoners transferred to Afghan authorities, but he admits there have been delays in getting required information.

"Canada can account for all transferred detainees currently in the Afghan prison system," he said yesterday.

He was responding to a published report that concluded an unknown number of Taliban insurgents captured by Canadian Forces were unaccounted for after being handed over to the Afghans.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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SCANLIFE

A Palestinian man who blames Ottawa for 'destroying' his family gains Belgian citizenship after being deported from Canada. Scan this barcode for the full story.

News in brief

FLAG TORN DOWN British police arrested three environmental activists who scaled the wall of the Canadian High Commission in London yesterday and cut down the Canadian flag. The men, all in their 20s, initially chained themselves to the balcony but came down peacefully after just over an hour.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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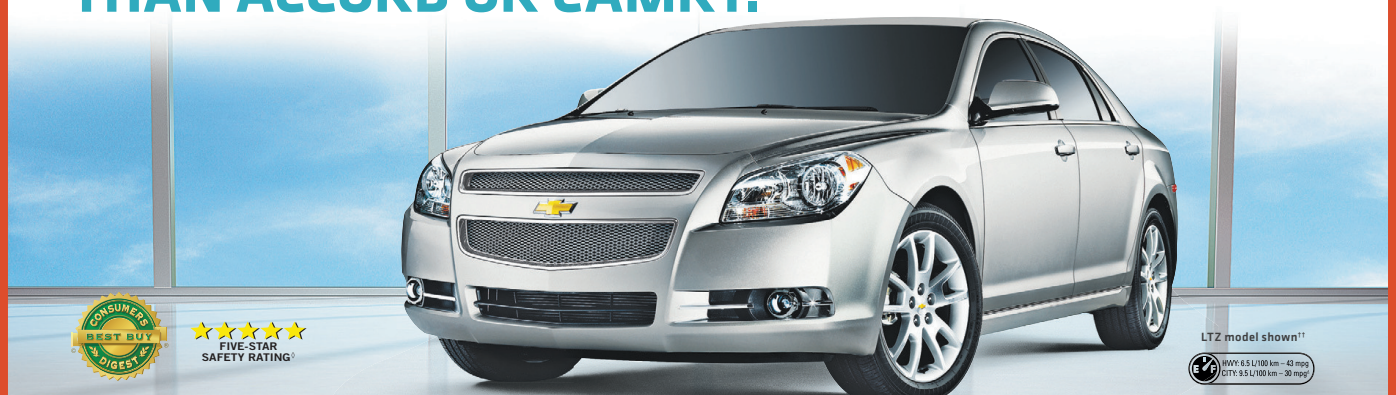

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Teen accused of murder released
A Whitehorse teenager accused of killing a man will be going back to school in January, after spending the last five months in jail. The 16-year-old girl cannot be identified because she is a minor. She turned herself in to the RCMP shortly after a 56-year-old man was found with multiple stab wounds last August. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada not done with H1N1 yet, top doc says

Flu Outbreak

HEALTH Canada's chief public health officer says Canadians shouldn't become complacent about H1N1 influenza, which is unpredictable and could stage a big comeback in the new year.

Dr. David-Butler Jones says Canada is not done yet with H1N1 flu and there could well be a third wave of the pandemic in the coming months.

He also warns that the holiday season is an ideal time for the virus to spread because of people gathering for festivities.

Butler-Jones says the best way to protect oneself from the disease is by getting vaccinated.

About 40 per cent of Canadians have been inoculated against the virus and the federal government says there is enough vaccine for every Canadian who wants it.

Since the pandemic strain emerged in late April, 102 Canadians have been hospitalized because of H1N1 flu complications and 390 have died of the disease.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

SAFETY The federal health minister is "outraged" that Liberal senators were able to get their way in weakening a bill that would overhaul consumer product safety legislation in Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Colvin set to defend self

Diplomat and whistleblower Richard Colvin will break his silence today in a 20-page rebuttal of the federal government's claims it received no "credible allegations" of torture of prisoners handed over to Afghan authorities until late 2007.

Colvin's letter, to be submitted to the committee probing the controversy, is certain to increase the pressure on the Conservative government to comply with a Parliamentary vote ordering it to produce uncensored documents related to the detainee issue.

Richard Colvin

It comes after seven Conservative MPs boycotted and forced the cancellation of a special sitting of the committee yesterday.

A source said Colvin, who was a senior official in the Canadian Embassy in Afghanistan in 2006-07, feels it is his "duty to correct the record and provide a complete and detailed record before the committee."

Colvin will address the claims both in testimony and in public statements by three cabinet ministers, three generals and former top civil servants involved in overseeing the mission in Afghanistan that "nobody told us there was a problem, the claim that as soon as the government was informed they fixed the problems, and the claim that there were no credible allegations of the torture of Afghan detainees until late 2007."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Police charge 18-year-old after stolen Hummer kills man

Winnipeg police have charged an 18-year-old man in a fatal collision involving a stolen Hummer sport utility vehicle. A 47-year-old man died after a speeding vehicle collided with the small car. Police say they expect to make more arrests in the case. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Oh, no — those Yes Men plan a new prank

Get ready for more shenanigans, Canada.

Or maybe that's all part of the hoax.

It's difficult to know what's real and what's not when it comes to the murky, madcap world of the Yes Men.

The notorious group of pranksters had some people going on Monday with a prank on Canada over its stance on climate change.

Now those same tricksters are suggesting they'll keep up their antics — and Alberta's tarsands could be their next target.

The New York-based group told a Twitter audience yesterday they pulled their prank to teach people "about Canada's true nature and their responsibility to the developing countries" over climate debt.

But they conceded their message didn't come across as clearly as they'd hoped — so more pranks could be on the way.

One Twitter user asked, "Why stop now?" and wanted to know if the Yes Men will keep up their campaign against the tarsands.

"Who says we're stopping?" the group replied.

The Yes Men claim their latest ruse was a joint operation "between groups from developed and developing nations to highlight the relationship between the two," an issue they said should be stressed at the Copenhagen climate talks.

Their elaborate ruse made headlines around the world, and even fooled major media outlets.

Environment Minister Jim Prentice said the hoax was unhelpful, but it was at the "periphery" of the real focus in Copenhagen, which is the negotiations.

Past targets of the Yes Men have included former U.S. President George W. Bush, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the World Trade Organization and Dow Chemical.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fooled ya – group's fake news releases

- The Yes Men's prank began with a news release bearing an Environment Canada letterhead claiming Canada was dramatically revising its carbon emissions targets.
- A little more than an hour later, a second release came out, calling the first a fake.
- The group issued a third phoney news release, this time with a link to video of faux Ugandan reaction to the fake Canadian policy change.

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Charity gets movie magic

GIVING Marta McLaughlin has sponsored families in the past through the Burnaby Christmas Bureau, but it had long been on her to-do list to give her time.

The B.C.-based prop master, who works in the film industry, decided to lend a hand to the charitable program, which provides families in Burnaby, B.C., with food certificates and new toys, and gives hampers to low-income seniors.

So McLaughlin infused a little movie magic of her own in helping to transform a once-vacant space at Brentwood Town Centre, a Burnaby mall, into a colourful, festive toyland.

"This is a really hard time of year I think for a lot of people," she said.

Many charitable organizations across Canada are being hit with a double whammy this year: An increased demand for services in a tough economy and a decline in donations.

Statistics Canada says reported charitable donations were over $8.1 billion last year, but it was a 5.3 per cent decline from 2007. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Power deal won't be hidden: N.B.

GIANT SALE New Brunswick's energy minister says details of the final agreement will be made public before NB Power is sold to Hydro-Québec at the end of March.

Jack Keir says he's not sure if lawyers will allow the contract to be released before it is signed, but he says he'll make sure the public knows the details.

Keir has come under fire for not providing more details of the $4.8 billion deal. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Mom screams as child's attacker sent to jail
The mother of a toddler injured in an assault screamed at the family of the man responsible as he was sent to prison in Medicine Hat for 42 months. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Coke gets no kudos

Drinks icon's environmental record attacked

An advocacy group is taking a poke at Coke.

The Council of Canadians is adding its voice to groups opposed to the Vancouver Olympics — and is especially taking aim at sponsor Coca-Cola.

The council is distributing signs that attack Coke's environmental record.

It accuses the company of polluting water and complaining that Coca-Cola bottles and resells water.

The signs suggest Coke's environmental efforts, such as reducing the amount of plastic in its bottles, amount to "greenwashing."

Bob Ages, a spokesperson for the group, says the real issue is the corporatization of the Games, and he has problems with other sponsors as well.

Beyond the sponsors, Ages also has a laundry lists of other concerns, such as how the Olympics will impact the homeless and potential limits on free speech during the Games.

The Council of Canadians has said it believes the Vancouver Games will leave a negative legacy, particularly when it comes to the environment and fiscal accountability.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A cola king

- Coca-Cola was invented by Atlanta pharmacist, John Stith Pemberton in 1886.
- Since then, the Coca-Cola Company has grown to represent over 400 different brands in 200 countries.

N.L. reviewing air ambulances after death of premature baby

AIR AMBULANCE Health officials in Newfoundland and Labrador are reviewing air ambulance services after repeated delays prompted demands for a plane based in Labrador.

Liberal Leader Yvonne Jones presented a petition in the house of assembly yesterday signed by 3,000 people.

It comes after a premature baby died last summer after the mother waited 11 hours in Labrador City for a plane to St. John's.

The signatures were gathered by another mother whose sick son waited hours for a medical flight from Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Jones says an air ambulance based in St. John's was out of commission last summer, leaving one plane in St. Anthony to cover a vast region.

Health Minister Jerome Kennedy says he's "very troubled" by the complaints and has asked for a fast review.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Vancouver **Friends in high places**

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A window washer hangs out next to a statue by Chinese artist Yue Minjun yesterday in Vancouver.

Canada left out of Dofasco cuts

Parent firm plans layoffs

The world's biggest steelmaker plans to reduce its global workforce next year, but the Canadian operations of ArcelorMittal shouldn't be affected other than through natural attrition, a spokesman says.

Reports say the company, which operates Dofasco in Hamilton, is looking to reduce its overall head count in 2010 by about 3.5 per cent, with most of the cuts likely to occur in Europe and the U.S.

Spokesman Andrew Sloan said ArcelorMittal Dofasco's 5,000 workers in Hamilton shouldn't be affected other than through retirements.

"ArcelorMittal Dofasco has as one of its advantages a workforce that averages almost 30 years of service, so almost 2,500 retirement-eligible employees," Sloan said in an email.

ArcelorMittal, based in Luxembourg, bought Canadian-owned Dofasco in 2006 during a massive consolidation in the global steel industry. It also owns the former Sidbec and Quebec Cartier Mining.

287,000
Arcelor workers worldwide

10,000
Jobs to be cut, primarily in the U.S. and Europe

A report in the Wall Street Journal says the job cuts are expected to affect workers who were temporarily laid off as plants idled earlier this year.

The report says the company doesn't expect steel prices to recover to their 2007 highs for a decade, but it still plans to increase production to a capacity utilization rate of 70 per cent at the end of the year, up from 61 per cent in the third quarter.

Most steelmakers took a major hit in 2009 and were forced to cut their production dramatically. Since then, steel prices have rebounded somewhat as stimulus spending, particularly in developing economies like China and India, has ratcheted up demand. THE CANADIAN PRESS

N.B. woos nurses with $10,000 loans

HEALTH New Brunswick will spend $800,000 on new incentives designed to lure nurses to hard-to-fill jobs. Health Minister Mary Schryer announced yesterday that 40 graduate nurses will be offered $10,000 forgivable loans this year, with another 40 loans to come next year. They must remain on the job at least two years. The province has a shortage of 400 nurses, and almost half of public sector RNs are eligible to retire. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Victoria police form new domestic unit

CRIME The deaths of five family members in a murder-suicide have prompted the Victoria Police Department to form a domestic violence unit. Insp. Clark Russell told a coroner's inquest into the 2007 deaths that two officers will form the new unit, which will work with counsellors and legal officials. The inquest involves the case of Peter Lee, who killed his six-year-old son, his estranged wife, her parents, and himself. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Police officers plead not guilty in murder coverup
Three Pennsylvania police officers have pleaded not guilty in connection with an alleged coverup in the fatal beating of a Mexican immigrant. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

World

Sexual harassment rampant: Conference

The sexual harassment of women in the streets, schools and work places of the Arab world is driving them to cover up and confine themselves to their homes, said activists at the first-ever regional conference addressing the once taboo topic.

AMR NABIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this 2008 file photo, Egyptian Basma Khaled Abdel-Fattah, 18, left front, trains in a self-defence class to protect against sexual harassment north of Cairo. Sexual harassment of women in Arab streets, schools and work places may be driving more and more women to cover up, rights activists say.

Activists from 17 countries across the region met in Cairo for a two-day conference ending Monday and concluded that harassment was unchecked across the region because laws don't punish it, women don't report it and the authorities ignore it.

The harassment, including groping and verbal abuse, is a daily experience women in the region face and makes them wary of going into public spaces, whether it's the streets or jobs, the participants said. It happens regardless of what women are wearing.

With more and more women in schools, the workplace and politics, roles have changed, but often traditional attitudes have not.

Experts said in some places, like Egypt, harassment appears sometimes to be out of vengeance, from men blaming women for denied work opportunities.

Amal Madbouli, who wears the conservative face veil or niqab, told The Associated Press that despite her dress, she is harassed and described how a man came after her in the streets of her neighbourhood.

"He hissed at me and kept asking me if I wanted to go with him to a quieter area, and to give him my phone number," said Madbouli, a mother of two. "This is a national security issue. I am a mother, and I want to be reassured when my daughters go out on the streets."

Statistics on harassment in the region have until recently been nonexistent, but a series of studies presented at the conference hinted at the widespread nature of the problem.

As many as 90 per cent of Yemeni women say they have been harassed, while in Egypt, out of a sample of 1,000, 83 per cent reported being verbally or physically abused. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Indonesian Obama statue draws ire

JAKARTA A statue of U.S. President Barack Obama as a boy erected in a Jakarta park has been targeted in a Facebook campaign by thousands who say it should be removed.

The Indonesian-language Facebook group named "Take Down the Barack Obama Statue in Taman Menteng Park" had attracted more than 15,000 members by yesterday since the 110-centimetre statue of 10-year-old Obama dressed in shorts and a T-shirt was unveiled in the downtown park last week.

Heru Nugroho, the group's creator, said he would use the support on the popular social networking website to demand that Jakarta Gov. Fauzi Bowo remove the statue.

DITA ALANGKARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The statue in Jakarta is meant to capture Obama when he lived in Indonesia as a child.

"Everybody knows that Obama is a world leader, but he is not our national hero who deserves to be awarded a statue," Nugroho said.

Many Indonesians are proud of the fact that Obama lived in Jakarta from 1967 to 1971 with his American mother, his Indonesian stepfather and his half-sister.

He went by the name "Barry," attended the local elementary school near where his statue now stands and owned a pet monkey. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

News in brief

ITALY The man who attacked Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi apologized to him for his "superficial, cowardly and uncontrolled" attack as a judge considered whether he should be transferred to a psychiatric hospital. Massimo Tartaglia, a 42-year-old with a history of psychological problems, wrote a letter to Berlusconi through his lawyers, saying he was sorry for his act, the lawyers said in a communique. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Another deadly bombing in Pakistan
A suicide attacker detonated a car bomb in a market close in central Pakistan yesterday, killing 33 people. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

‘Balancing between success and failure’

Differences between U.S. and China threaten conference

Go Green

The success of the UN climate conference hung in the balance yesterday as China and the U.S. deadlocked over whether Beijing will allow the world to check its books and verify promised cuts in greenhouse gas emissions.

Princes, presidents and premiers crowded into a vast hall for the formal opening of the largest summit ever held on climate change, but attention was on the leaders of the world’s two largest polluters — U.S. President Barack Obama and Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao — who plan to arrive for the final days of talks on a framework to control heat-trapping gases.

Negotiators who have been working for 10 days floated new draft documents on lesser issues. But they left open the vexing questions of emissions targets for industrial countries, billions of dollars a year in funding for poor countries to contend with global warming, and verifying the actions of emerging powers like China to ensure they keep their promises.

“In these very hours, we are balancing between success and failure,” said conference president Connie Hedegaard of Denmark.

Success is possible, she said, “but I must also warn you: We can fail — probably without anyone really wanting it so, but because we spent too much time on posturing, on repeating positions, on formalities.”

Prodipto Ghosh, a member of the Indian delegation, said the negotiations were “not going good” and that fundamental differences between rich and poor nations would be “difficult to bridge” by the end of the week.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Big footprint

- If they fail to reach a climate deal in Copenhagen, world leaders flying in their private jets and huddling in five-star hotels will have little to show for their efforts beyond a big, fat carbon footprint. The UN estimates 40,500 tons of carbon dioxide will be pumped into the atmosphere during the 12-day conference — 90 per cent of it from flights.

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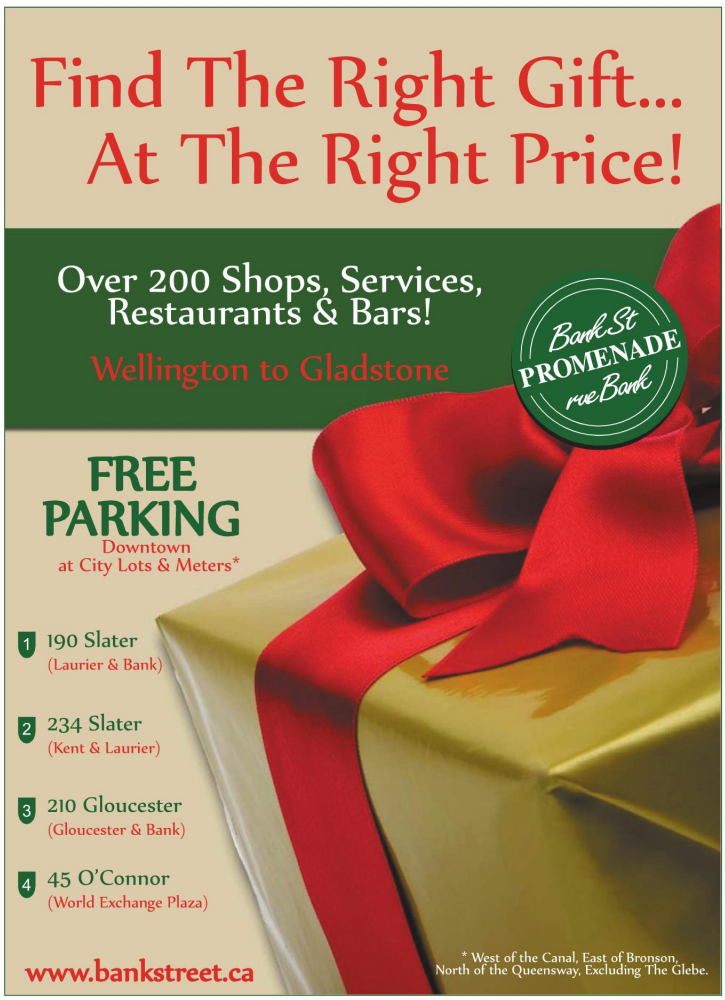

A Canadian Christmas

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Oral Roberts dead at 91

Evangelist Oral Roberts, who founded a multimillion-dollar ministry and a university, died yesterday at 91 after suffering a fall. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Smoke and ash **Mayon erupts in Philippines**

NELSON SALTING/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lava cascades down the slopes of Mayon, a volcano in the Philippines' Albay province. State volcanologists raised the alert level yesterday on the 2,460-metre volcano to two steps below a major eruption, as more than 20,000 people were evacuated. Mayon last erupted in 2006.

Americans warming to climate measures

Many say curbing pollution will create jobs

Americans believe reducing global warming pollution will help the U.S. economy more than hurt it. It is a sign the public is showing more faith in President Barack Obama's economic arguments for limiting heat-trapping gases, and less in Republican claims that such measures would kill jobs.

In an Associated Press-Stanford University poll, 40 per cent said U.S. action to slow global warming in the future would create jobs. Slightly more, 46 per cent, said it would boost the economy.

By contrast, less than a third said curbing climate change would hurt the economy and result in fewer jobs, a message Republican members of Congress plan to take to an international global warming conference in Copenhagen this week.

"They're wrong," Ron Classen, who participated in the poll, said of the Republican stance. "People are going to be shifted from one job to another," said Classen, a self-described fan of environmentalist and former vice-president Al Gore.

"We are in a sinking ship, and Obama has bought us enough life rafts to keep on going."
Respondent
Jake Berglund

The survey's results seem to boost Democratic efforts to curb global warming pollution and sign on to an international agreement to reduce heat-trapping gases, despite the concerns many Americans have about the recession and the high unemployment rate.

For some, the recession has manifested itself in a nothing-left-to-lose attitude when it comes to tackling climate change and sparking a revolution in energy production.

"I don't know if anybody has looked around lately, but the economy is dead," said Jake Berglund, a home improvement contractor.

"We are in a sinking ship, and Obama has bought us enough life rafts to keep on going. But we need to figure out how to build a new boat when we are still on the water."

However, three-quarters of respondents said they would oppose a cap-and-trade system of pollution reduction if it raised their electricity bill by $25 a month. A majority, 59 per cent, wouldn't support cap-and-trade if it meant paying $10 more a month for electricity.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Illinois to take Gitmo prisoners

SUPER-JAIL President Barack Obama has ordered the federal government to acquire an underused state prison in rural Illinois to act as the new home for a limited number of terror suspects now held in the U.S. detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The federal government will acquire Thomson Correctional Center in Thomson, Ill., transforming the sleepy town's prison into a facility that exceeds "super-max standards," according to a letter sent to Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn.

The decision is an important step towards closing Guantanamo Bay. Thomson is expected to house both federal inmates and no more than 100 detainees from Guantanamo.

Yesterday, Illinois Sen. Richard Durbin and Quinn cast the decision to accept Guantanamo detainees as an act of patriotism, which would have the added benefit of creating new jobs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

BLACKMAIL Prosecutors say a TV producer accused of trying to blackmail David Letterman with knowledge of a sexual affair is engaging in "self-serving spin" by claiming that he was just trying to sell a screenplay to the talk-show host.

ASSAULT A jury in the U.S. Pacific territory of Guam has acquitted eight police officers and two civilians accused of conspiring to beat up a group of young Micronesian men in what a prosecutor called a racially motivated attack.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Governator says economic growth doesn't impede clean environment
California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger says world policymakers do not have to choose between a clean environment and economic growth. Schwarzenegger said "we've proved that over and over again in California." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Calderon moves on election reforms

POLITICS Mexican President Felipe Calderon is proposing runoff elections in future presidential contests and re-election for many officials in Mexico's most dramatic political reform attempt in decades.

The proposal announced yesterday would still limit presidents to a single, six-year term, but it would relax Mexico's ironclad ban on re-election of other officials. It also would allow independent candidates to run for public offices and would permit citizen initiatives.

"The idea is to give citizens more power, to give them the capacity to shape public life and to strengthen our democracy," Calderon said in a televised address.

But reforms would require a string of tough-to-pass constitutional amendments and they are likely to come under fire from established parties who could see their power eroded by the changes.

Under the proposed reform, the winner of presidential elections would have to receive more than half of the votes to avoid a runoff with the next-highest vote getter.

That might have averted some of the struggles that Calderon faced when he won the 2006 election with just 36 per cent of the vote — less than a percentage point ahead of leftist rival Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, whose claims of fraud led to weeks of disruptive protests. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.K. to revamp political arrest law

LAW AND ORDER Britain pledged yesterday to reform a peculiar legal power that lets judges order the arrest of visiting politicians and generals — a threat currently focused on Israeli visitors that, one day, might be invoked against Barack Obama or Vladimir Putin.

Lawyers working with Palestinian activists in recent years have sought the arrest of senior Israeli civilian and military figures under terms of "universal jurisdiction." This ill-defined legal concept empowers judges to issue arrest warrants for visiting officials accused of war crimes in a foreign conflict.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Geologist put on shaky ground

A geologist on trial for causing earthquakes while drilling for hot rocks to produce clean energy said yesterday he was surprised by the strength of the most powerful temblor.

Markus Haering, who designed the geothermal project, rejected allegations that he deliberately damaged properties and said local people knew the risks.

The deep drilling underground caused a series of earthquakes in 2006, including one of 3.4 magnitude, rattling residents of the northwest city of Basel. Project leader Geopower Basel has already paid around 9 million Swiss francs ($9 million US) in compensation for cracked walls and other damage on properties near the experiment.

The project was suspended at the time and shut down last week after a risk analysis concluded that more quakes could follow if the drilling continued.

The experiment aimed to be the world's first to generate power commercially by boiling water on naturally occurring rocks three miles (five kilometres) underground.

The Swiss efforts are being closely watched in the United States, where the Energy Department is sponsoring more than 120 geothermal energy projects in several states. A leading U.S. company, AltaRock Energy, in September stopped drilling at one key development site north of San Francisco citing drilling difficulties.

AltaRock's chief executive Don O'Shei said yesterday the company is not abandoning the experiment.

"We suspended the drilling project in September, and are still waiting for the final review of seismicity from the Department of Energy," O'Shei told The Associated Press.

The project was criticized by neighbours, who feared it would spur earthquakes.

Geologists said the drilling would create minor quakes too light to feel. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

Whining about Grapes

Doctor condemns Don Cherry for 'negative influence'

TheWestView

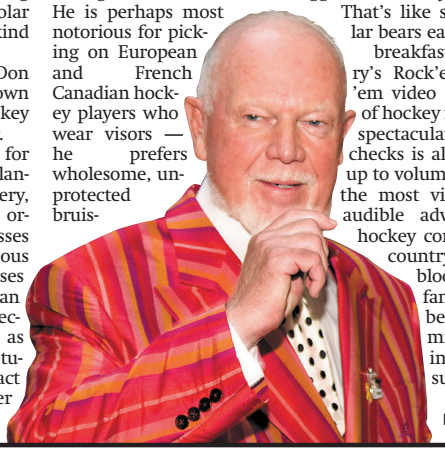
One of our great Canadian icons is threatened. I'm not talking about the polar bear, although he does kind of look like one.

I'm talking about Don Cherry, who has held down Coach's Corner on Hockey Night In Canada forever.

Grapes is famous for abusing the English language and haberdashery, not necessarily in that order. Each week, he dresses up in some outrageous clown suit and expresses himself in words that can only be described in adjectives that end in "ent," as in "truculent" and "petulant." It's a bad boy act that, apparently, never gets old.

After all, he is No. 7 on CBC's all-time list of Top 10 Canadians. He outpolled Sir John A. Macdonald, the father of our country! He even beat Wayne Gretzky, who really knew how to play hockey, not just growl about it.

Over the years, Grapes has been in trouble for his opinions, which occasionally fall over the line from outrageous to actionable. He is perhaps most notorious for picking on European and French Canadian hockey players who wear visors — he prefers wholesome, unprotected bruisers from northern Ontario or the Prairies.



Despite that, or more likely because of his various gaffes, Cherry continues to thrive. But he's back on the hot seat after neurosurgeon Dr. Charles Tator, concerned about the rise of concussions in hockey, recently condemned Cherry for being a "negative influence" because he promotes aggressive hockey.

That's like saying polar bears eat seals for breakfast. Cherry's Rock'em, Sock'em video collection of hockey fights and spectacular bodychecks is all the way up to volume 21. He's the most visible and audible advocate of hockey contact in a country of bloodthirsty fans. Must be those mind-warping plaid suits.

Don Cherry

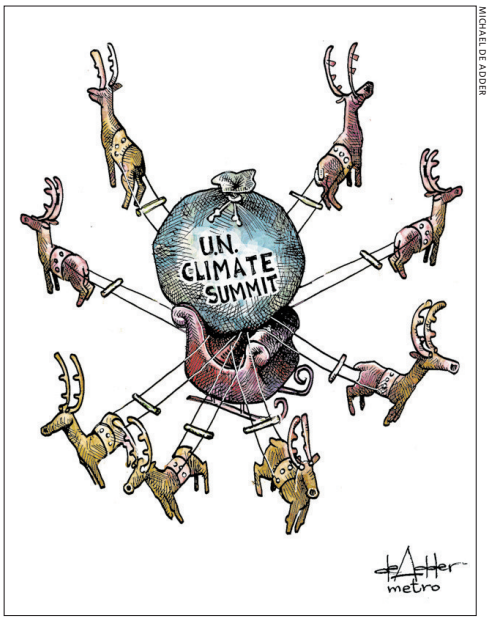
Even weirder than Cherry's tailor ("Mr. Cherry, chartreuse and Day-Glo orange are definitely your colours!") are the legion of admirers and supporters rushing to his defence.

The producer of Hockey Night In Canada defends his "record of safety and respect in hockey." Various hockey players and pundits have pointed out his criticism of "touch icing" and his campaign to prevent blind hits from behind, both subtle variations on his general approval of hockey mayhem.

Face it, Don Cherry is the poster boy for the thousands of fans who are on their feet whenever a fight breaks out on the ice. He's our token troglodyte, and his popularity says more about us than it does about him.

Dr. Tator, you might as well try to turn polar bears into vegetarians.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Online chatter

Follow Metro on Twitter for news updates and more: @metroottawa

Asked on Twitter: What do you think this decade will be remembered for?

TORONTO

@adsnell Climate Change, iphones, google everything, Barack Obama and tweeting

@missmelbies 9/11, social media, obama, online music (from napster to iTunes), going "green," iraq, and janet jackson's nipple.

HALIFAX

@halifaxhometeam This decade will be remembered for the scandals and 9/11

@joverm social media, the internet, barack obama

@toddns often the most recent while still in the forefront of peoples minds so I say H1N1 for obvious reasons

@themuppetsrule 9/11 has lurked like a dark shadow over the first decade of 2000s. War, terrorism fears, security, unprecedented, really.

CALGARY

@ebarbaric It was a decade of acceleration. In our lives, communication, business, even the stock market. I'm excited for what comes next

@jess4002 sites such as @youtube, @facebook, @wikipedia, @twitter. the ipod. the war in iraq. natural disasters like hurricane katrina. vampire craze. president @BarackObama. death of michael jackson. reality tv! holy smokes, remember when survivor premiered?

EDMONTON

@tamaracarlsonpr to be honest, it was a dark decade. In with 9\11, out with a pandemic and recession ... katrina, tsunami, war on terrorism ...

Word on the street: What do you think this decade will be remembered for?

Sylvie Duchesne
Aylmer

A: For the environmental issues, like the tsunami. Over the last 10 years, the weather has changed like crazy.

Carlyn Matz
Ottawa

A: 9-11. It shaped everything that happened — the wars, the economy.

Tammi Pettigrew
Ottawa

A: The 9-11 attacks would be the most memorable.

Mike Derrada
Toronto

A: I guess just the constant changes. Everyone was all about the next best thing. Things were always changing ... Whether it's technology, fashion, celebrities ... in with the new and out with the old, at a very fast pace.

Julianna Auma
Vancouver

A: Scandals. Political scandals, environmental scandals. It has definitely been a decade of learning and one to learn from.

Michael Schraefel
Calgary

A: I would have to say the widespread usage and access to the Internet and communication technology. It's bizarre how much it has changed over the years.

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60% The percentage of Canadians who enjoy responding to opinion surveys.

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HWY: 6.3 L/100 km – 43 mpg CITY: 9.5 L/100 km – 30 mpg‡

2009 CHEVROLET AVEO LS

$10,995* CASH PURCHASE PRICE WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 36 MONTHS‡

INCLUDES $2,850 CASH CREDIT

INCLUDES $1,000 HOLIDAY BONUS

HWY: 5.7 L/100 km – 50 mpg CITY: 7.9 L/100 km – 36 mpg‡

★★★★★ FIVE-STAR SAFETY RATING◊

2010 CHEVROLET COBALT XFE

$13,645* CASH PURCHASE PRICE WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 36 MONTHS‡

INCLUDES $1,850 CASH CREDIT

INCLUDES $1,000 HOLIDAY BONUS

HWY: 5.4L/100KM – 52 MPG CITY: 8.0L/100KM – 35 MPG‡

COUPE OR SEDAN

INCLUDES • 155 HP 2.2L ECOTEC® VVT Engine • 60/40 Flip-and-Fold Rear Seats • Driver and Front-passenger Frontal Air Bags • Head Curtain Side-impact Air Bags • Auxiliary Audio Input Jack • Vehicle Theft-deterrant System • 15-in. Wheels • Speed-sensitive Electric Power Steering

LT model shown with team Canada Edition Package††

LTZ model shown††

2010 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE LS

$29,995* CASH PURCHASE PRICE

INCLUDES $5,200 CASH CREDIT

INCLUDES $1,000 HOLIDAY BONUS

INCLUDES • 8-passenger Seating • 281 HP 3.6L V6 VVT Engine with Direct Injection • 6-speed Automatic • Power Windows, Door Locks and Mirrors • StabiliTrak® Electronic Stability Control System • Remote Keyless Entry System • Air Conditioning • Driver and Front-passenger Frontal and Seat-mounted Side-impact Air Bags • Front-to-Rear Outboard Head Curtain Side-impact Air Bags • Second-row with SmartSlide™ and 60/40 Split-Bench Seat • Third-row with 60/40 Split-Bench Seat

HWY: 8.4 L/100 km – 34 mpg CITY: 12.3 L/100 km – 22 mpg‡

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Russia to build Vietnam's nuclear plant

Russia penned a deal yesterday to build Vietnam's first nuclear power plant, and the countries' respective oil and gas giants forged a joint venture, increasing Moscow's outreach into southeast Asia, Russian news agencies reported. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

DOLLAR	GAS	OIL	TSX
US 94.22¢	US $5.523	US $70.69	11,541.02
US 0.18¢	US 19.1¢	US $1.18	4.67

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Business in brief

AUTO New motor vehicle sales increased 3.5 per cent to 133,559 units in October after rising in September. October's sales were 3.2 per cent lower than October 2008. Preliminary industry data indicate that the number of new motor vehicles sold decreased seven per cent in November.

BANKRUPTCY The number of Canadian bankruptcies fell a record 27.7 per cent in October from a month earlier, the office of the superintendent of bankruptcy said yesterday, CBC News Online reports.

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SCANLIFE

As concern about Dubai begins to fade, worries about the financial health of Greece and Austria provokes fresh anxiety for economists. Scan this barcode for the full story.

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Homebuyers nervous: Poll

A survey of real estate brokers and agents says Canadian homebuyers are still nervous about the stability of the economy, but few believe home prices are likely to decline again.

The Royal LePage adviser survey found 38 per cent of agents and brokers said economic instability ranked as the number one fear for home owners over the past three months.

Twenty-three per cent of brokers said home buyers fear they may not be able to sell existing homes at the price they are hoping for, while 12 per cent said buyers are hesitant because they think prices haven't hit rock bottom yet.

Another 20 per cent of agents and brokers said they are not hearing any concerns from buyers.

The survey also found an increasing number of Canadians were buying homes as investment properties with more planning to renovate after they made a purchase.

The online survey questioned 1,225 Royal LePage agents and brokers in November.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rising price

- The national average price of an existing home rose to more than $337,000, the Canadian Real Estate Association reports.

Poland **Union gets heated**

CZAREK SOKOLOWSKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Polish shipyard workers burn tires and react, during a demonstration, in Warsaw, Poland, yesterday. Thousands of workers from the Solidarity trade union marched in the Polish capital to demand government protection for industrial jobs. The workers rallied in front of Prime Minister Donald Tusk's office, carrying the white and red flags of the Solidarity trade union.

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SE model shown with Podium Edition Package††

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HEAD CURTAIN SIDE IMPACT AIRBAGS	Standard	Not Available	Standard
AIR CONDITIONING	Standard	Optional	Optional
16" ALUMINUM WHEELS	Standard	15" Steel	15" Steel
REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY	Standard	Not Available	Not Available
POWER DOOR LOCKS	Standard	Standard	Not Available
HP / TORQUE	155/150	138/150	140/128
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DOWN	BI-WEEKLY
$0	$99
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$3,000	$80

HWY: 5.9L/100 km (48 mpg)
CITY: 8.7L/100 km (32 mpg)Δ

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DOWN	BI-WEEKLY
$0	$87
$1,000	$81
$3,000	$68

HWY: 5.8L/100 km (49 mpg)
CITY: 8.2L/100 km (34 mpg)Δ

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DOWN	BI-WEEKLY
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$1,000	$105
$3,000	$93

HWY: 6.2L/100 km (46 mpg)
CITY: 7.8L/100 km (36 mpg)Δ

INCLUDES • 132 HP 1.8L 4-cyl. VVTi Engine • **StabiliTrak® Electronic Stability Control System • Air Conditioning with Clean Air Filter • Power Windows, Door Locks and Mirrors** • 60/40 Split-Folding Rear Seatbacks • Driver and Front-passenger Frontal Air Bags • Head Curtain Side-impact Air Bags • Auxiliary Audio Input Jack • Remote Keyless Entry System • Cruise Control • 4-wheel Disc Brakes with ABS and Brake Assist • OnStar® with 1-year of the Safe & Sound Plan¥

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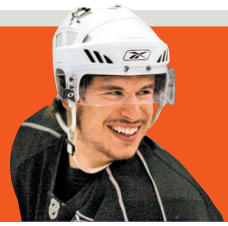
For the latest information, visit us at pontiac.gm.ca, drop by your local Pontiac Buick GMC Dealer or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE. ♦$3,350/$1,350/$2,975 manufacturer to dealer delivery credit available on 2010 G5 SE/2010 Vibe/2009 G3 Wave SE reflected in offers in this advertisement. Credit will impact the effective APR for finance customers. See your GM dealer for details. ♦♦$1,000 holiday bonus cash is a manufacturer to dealer delivery credit (tax exclusive) and is reflected in offers in this advertisement. Offer available on all 2009/2010 Chevrolet Pontiac Buick GMC and Hummer models excluding all Saturn and Saab models, Camaro, Express/Savana, Corvette ZR1 and Medium Duty Trucks. *Offer applies to the cash purchase of 2010 Pontiac (G5 SE Coupe or Sedan R7C/Vibe FWD R7A) and 2009 Pontiac G3 Wave SE 1SN. Freight ($1,350/$1,325/$1,325), license, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees and taxes are not included. Cash purchase price reflects discounts or other incentives that are only available when consumers opt for cash purchase offers. By selecting lease or finance offers consumers are foregoing such credit which will result in a higher effective interest rate. ‡Financing on approved GMAC credit only. 4.09% purchase financing for 84 months available on 2010 Pontiac (G5 SE Coupe or Sedan R7C/Vibe FWD R7A) and 2009 Pontiac G3 Wave SE 1SN. Example: $10,000 at 4.09% for 84 months, the monthly payment is $137.10. Cost of borrowing is $1,516.40. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Freight and taxes are not included for bi-weekly payment. Bi-weekly payments based on a purchase price of $15,648/$13,778/$17,648 with $0 down payment and 84 months at 4.09% APR. Cost of borrowing is $2,777.28. Cost of borrowing is $2,447.28 and $3,133.28 respectively. Offer may be changed or withdrawn at any time without notice. Dealer may sell for less or lease for less. ‡‡Financing for 36 months at 0% for 36 months. Monthly payment is $27.78. Cost of borrowing is $0. Total obligation is $1,000. Offer applies to the purchase of 2009 and 2010 Pontiac models. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and fees are not included. Offer available on all 2009/2010 Chevrolet Pontiac Buick GMC Dealer Advantage Associates. Dealer may sell for less or lease for less. Offer may be changed or withdrawn at any time without notice. Dealer may sell for less or lease for less. ^Whichever comes first. Excludes medium-duty trucks. See dealer for limited warranty details. ΔBased on 2009 Natural Resources Canada Fuel Consumption Guide. Actual fuel consumption may vary depending on driving conditions and habits. ◆Based on 2009 Pontiac G3 Wave received a 5-star Rating for the driver and front passenger in the Frontal Crash Test. ††Pontiac G5 SE Podium Edition, MSRP $19,925. ¥OnStar® services require vehicle electrical system (including battery); wireless service and GPS satellite signals to be available and operating for features to function properly. Subscription Service Agreement required. Call 1-888-4ONSTAR (1-888-466-7827) or visit onstar.ca for OnStar's Terms and Conditions, Privacy Statement and details and system limitations. ▽GMCL will pay the first two months' GMAC finance payments for finance terms up to 60 months only, paid up to a maximum monthly finance payment of $400 (tax included). Offer applicable to equal monthly payment finance agreements with GMAC and subject to GMAC credit approval. License, insurance, registration and administration fees not included and may be payable upon signing. Program not available to recipients of any previous GM student/graduate offer. Visit gmstudentbonus.ca for more details. †Subject to Vehicle Redemption Allowances. Visit thegmcard.ca for more details including terms and conditions that apply to The GM Card Earnings and Redemption Program. The Toronto-Dominion Bank and its affiliates are not responsible for the GM Card Earnings and Redemption Program. ®Registered trade-mark of General Motors Corporation/Used under license. TD logo is a trade-mark of The Toronto-Dominion Bank.

Upper Deck sticking with Woods

Sports card and memorabilia maker Upper Deck Co. said yesterday it will continue its relationship with Tiger Woods. The company, and its Upper Deck Authenticated collectibles division, said the two "look forward to his eventual return to the PGA Tour." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports



Crosby wins award

Pittsburgh Penguins captain Sidney Crosby is the winner of the 2009 Lou Marsh Award. The honour — decided by a panel of sports editors, reporters and broadcasters — is given annually to Canada's outstanding athlete by the Toronto Star. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Fisher deserves Olympic consideration

Versatile Senator showing that he would be an excellent 13th forward for Canada

TheHockeyNews

Ken Campbell

thehockeynews.com

Those of you who predicted before the season that Jason Spezza would play his way off the Canadian Olympic team and Mike Fisher would play onto it go to the front of the class and collect your gold star.

Fisher still faces some real challenges, but talk of him playing his way onto the Canadian team's radar has gone beyond idle chatter. And the way he continues to play, that's as it should be.

When you think about it, Fisher would be an excellent choice to be the team's 13th forward. Because in that role you need a player who's versatile and Fisher is nothing if not multi-talented this season.

On Monday night against the Toronto Maple Leafs, Fisher scored his 14th goal of the season to surpass his total from last season and cleanly won a key faceoff in the final seconds that would have resulted in a tie score had Alexei Kovalev not missed the net.

And that's exactly what the Canadian Olympic team should be seeking in its 13th man — a player who can play any forward position, kill penalties, win faceoffs, play a physical game and contribute offensively when needed. Fisher can tick off each of those with his play this season.

"I'm definitely not competing against the (Sidney) Crosbys and (Joe) Thorntons as far as offensive guys," Fisher said.

"I would definitely be a role guy, a physical guy. I think that's what I do best, but it's up to them. It would be awesome, but who knows?"

"I'm definitely not competing against the (Sidney) Crosbys and (Joe) Thorntons as far as offensive guys." Mike Fisher

And there's little doubt that Fisher is making that decision far more vexing as players continue to jockey for a coveted Olympic position.

If Fisher can continue to play at his current high level for the next two weeks, it will make for an interesting decision for Steve Yzerman and the others who are making the decisions for Team Canada.

The way Fisher has played, it certainly wouldn't be outrageous to suggest that he can help Team Canada and that he would deserve to be there.

All of which should make the next fortnight interesting for Fisher. He acknowledges it's difficult to ignore the fact that he is now seriously playing for a job.

"A month ago I wasn't thinking about it, but now people are asking me, so you start thinking about it for sure," Fisher said.

"That's human. I think anyone would. But I just have to keep playing because the only thing I can control is how I play."

The Hockey News thn.com

Halladay trade takes shape

BASEBALL The parameters of the complicated Roy Halladay trade continued to take shape yesterday.

The Toronto Blue Jays will reportedly get top pitching prospect Kyle Drabek, outfielder Michael Taylor and catcher Travis d'Arnaud from the Philadelphia Phillies in exchange for the ace right-hander.

ESPN.com reported the Blue Jays would then flip Taylor to the Oakland Athletics for infield prospect Brett Wallace.

Halladay and the Phillies also agreed to a contract that would set the wheeling and dealing into motion, according to ESPN.com.

The Phillies are then to send left-hander Cliff Lee to the Seattle Mariners for prospects, believed to include right-hander Phillippe Aumont of Gatineau, Que., and outfielder Tyson Gillies of Langley, B.C.

As part of the deal, the Blue Jays will also send $6 million US to help cover Halladay's $15.75-million salary this season, according to multiple reports.

The transaction still has many moving parts and had yet to be finalized.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Raptors Can't take the Heat

AMAN DIAZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Miami Heat forward Michael Beasley blocks a shot by Toronto Raptors guard DeMar DeRozan during a basketball game in Miami last night. Beasley scored 28 points to lead the Heat to a 115-95 win over the Raptors.

Knee injury may sideline Spezza for extended period

HOCKEY The Ottawa Senators could be without Jason Spezza for a considerable amount of time.

The star forward suffered a knee injury in a 3-2 loss to Toronto on Monday. The extent of the injury won't be known until after Spezza undergoes an MRI, but Ottawa's head coach Cory Clouston said it looks "serious."

"It means we have to be more of a team than ever," said Clouston. "It means we'll have to have guys step up, play with structure. It's a great opportunity for some guys."

Spezza left the game in the third period after getting tangled up with Leafs forward Lee Stempniak during a faceoff and didn't return.

Clouston also said injured goaltender Pascal Leclaire and forward Chris Neil were close to a return. Leclaire suffered a fractured cheekbone in November and Neil has been out with a knee injury. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

NHL MEETING Gary Bettman says NHL owners probably won't have to cut any cheques to cover the losses of the Phoenix Coyotes. The commissioner reassured some members of the board of governors yesterday that they won't be on the hook for the money-losing team if a proposed sale to the Ice Edge group goes through.

SOCCER Manchester United cruised past Wolverhampton 3-0 in Alex Ferguson's 900th league match in charge of the English champions yesterday. Wayne Rooney, Antonio Valencia and Nemanja Vidic scored to ensure United joined league leader Chelsea on 37 points ahead of the latter's match against Portsmouth today.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOREBOARD

NHL

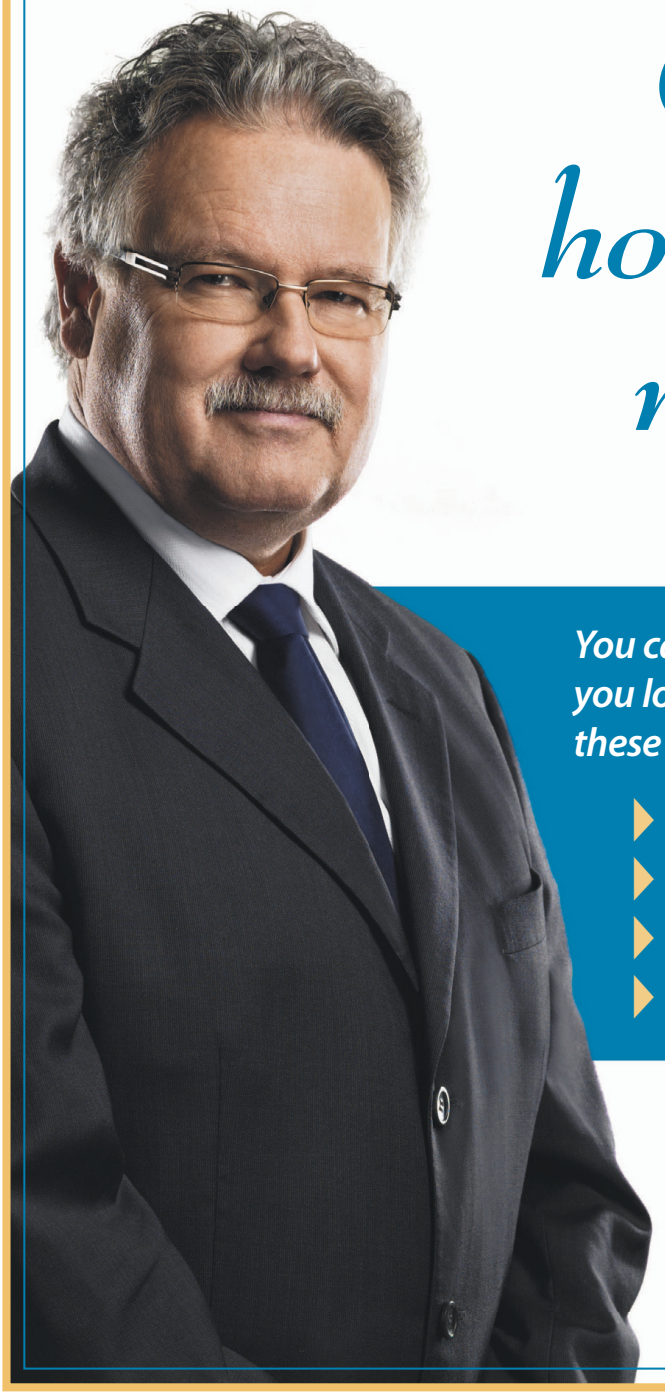
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Pittsburgh 6 Philadelphia 1
Minnesota 2 Columbus 1
St. Louis 4 Calgary 3
Nashville 7 Tampa Bay 4
Washington at Colorado N
Los Angeles at Edmonton N

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Miami 115 Toronto 95
Charlotte 94 New York 87
Cleveland 99 New Jersey 89
L.A. Lakers 96 Chicago 87
Houston 107 Detroit 96
San Antonio at Phoenix N
Sacramento at Portland N



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Dr. David Butler-Jones
Chief Public Health Officer of Canada

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Canada

Mercedes customers most loyal: Study

Mercedes-Benz has the most loyal customers in the industry, while Suzuki and Saab trail the list, according to a new survey by J.D. Power and Associates. The study measured the percentage of vehicle owners and lessees who replace a previously-purchased new vehicle with another from the same brand. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Metro Drive

Women vote for Jaguar

The 2010 Jaguar XF has won the inaugural Women's World Car of the Year. The awards were selected by a panel of international female automotive journalists, including Metro Canada automotive writer Jil McIntosh.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

The 2010 F-150 SVT Raptor is the first truck produced by Ford's Special Vehicle Team (hence the SVT) since the 2004 Lightning.

Made in truck heaven

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

If you've ever seen desert rallies, where hand-built trucks race across sand dunes and rock crests, you'll appreciate the work that goes into making one of these ultra-tough machines. Now, you can buy a version right off the showroom floor, as Ford introduces the 2010 F-150 SVT Raptor.

It's the first truck produced by Ford's Special Vehicle Team (hence the SVT) since the 2004 Lightning. And while it's naturally going to appeal to a niche market, its design, engineering and tough-but-tender nature make it one of the best trucks I've ever driven.

The only way you can get close to this combination of power and prowess otherwise is to build it yourself.

2010 Ford F-150 SVT Raptor

Type: Pickup truck
Price: $48,299
Engine: 5.4L V8
HP: 320

Highlights

- Ultra-tough but tender
- Impressive suspension
- Comfortable on city streets

Only 550 are slated for Canada for 2010, starting at $48,299. That's a lot of money, but it's impossible to outfit a regular F-150 exactly like it, at any price. More importantly, and very unusually for this much off-road ability, it's also almost ridiculously comfortable on city streets. You won't have to pay once for a weekend toy, and again for a workday commuter.

It comes only as a Super Cab, with five-foot-five box, and right now with a 5.4-litre V8 with six-speed automatic transmission, producing 320 horsepower.

A 400-horsepower 6.2-litre V8 will also be available. Naturally, 4x4 is the only configuration available, and Canadian trucks come complete with a luxury package that's optional for U.S. buyers.

The body is wider than a stock F-150, to accommodate the beefier suspension and Raptor-specific, 35-inch BF Goodrich tires. The fenders are rounded off, and a huge grille carries the brand name across its width. Inside, there are SVT-specific gauges, wheel and trim.

Inside, this special Ford F-150 features SVT-specific gauges, wheel and trim.

But the Raptor's heart is in its suspension. Racing shock manufacturer Fox Engineering created a new, rebuildable triple-bypass shock that, unlike most of Fox's products, you can only buy when the rest of the Raptor is attached. Ford says it's the first time any production truck has used anything like it.

It stiffens as it compresses, becoming four times harder at the end of the stroke. The shocks let me take it over a series of desert crests at 65 km/h, as easily as tackling a speed bump at the mall, but turned pliable enough for an asphalt ride that's more comfortable than the regular F-150's performance.

So does any of this make sense at a time when hybrids are hot, and compacts are king?

Well, no matter what fuel prices do, trucks are a necessity for some and a hobby for others, and if Go RVing can run TV ads extolling the virtues of driving a house across the country, the off-road crowd should have its fix, too.

They simply can't do much better than with this newest Ford, which will turn heads on the tarmac as easily as it will on the trail.

2010 Subaru Legacy

Top safety score for '10 Legacy

RATING The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has given the all-new 2010 Subaru Legacy its highest score — five stars — in every category for protecting occupants: driver and front passenger in frontal crash testing, front and rear passenger in side crash testing, and rollover protection in the four-wheel-drive category.

NHTSA's New Car Assessment Program (NCAP) rates vehicles of all makes and models to determine their crash and rollover safety. Ratings are created from data collected during controlled crash and rollover tests. Only vehicles with the highest ratings receive five stars.

Subaru's Ring-Shaped Reinforcement Frame safety structure forms the foundation for crash protection and occupant safety in the new-generation 2010 Legacy.

The structure design incorporates front and rear crumple zones to absorb the energy of an impact and help protect the passenger compartment. It forms a series of "rings" around the passenger compartment, providing protection in a variety of collision types.

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Three (3) Grand Prizes available to be won, each consisting of a trip for two (2) people to 2010 Pro Bowl and Super Bowl XLIV in South Florida. Approximate retail value of each Grand Prize is $10,000.00 (CDN). Random draw will be held on January 12, 2010 in Mississauga, ON. Must be a resident of Canada (excluding Québec), over age of majority. Odds of winning depend on the total number of eligible entries received. Correct answer to mathematical skill testing question required. Limit of one (1) entry per person/household. (c) 2009 NFL Ventures LP. Team names/logos are trademarks of the teams indicated. All other NFL-related trademarks are trademarks of the National Football League. ‡0% purchase financing for up to 36 months available on 2010 Altima Sedan (excluding Hybrid), Versa Hatch and Sentra models. Finance Example for a 2010 Altima Sedan 2.5 S (T4RG10 AE00): $25,098 MSRP, financed at 0% APR for 36 months equals $558.28 per month with $5,000 down payment or equivalent trade-in. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $25,098. Up to $84 PPSA, $1,400 freight and PDE, license, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax, where applicable) are extra. Finance offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Offers valid between December 1st, 2009 and January 4th, 2010. †Lease Examples: $25,098/$14,198/$15,198 MSRP for a new 2010 Altima Sedan 2.5 S (T4RG10 AE00)/2010 Versa Hatch 1.8 S (B5LG50 AA00)/2010 Sentra (C4LG50 AA00) at 2.9%/2.9%/4.9% lease rate for a 48/60/60 month term. Monthly payment is $289/$179/$179 with $3,475/$0/$1,695 down payment, $0/$0/$0 security deposit. Freight and PDE charges ($1,400)/($1,325)/($1,325), license, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax, where applicable) are extra. All prices are subject to change without notice. Retailer may lease for less. Lease based on a maximum of 24,000 km per year with excess charged at $0.10/km. Total lease obligation is $17,371/$10,752/$12,449. Lease and finance offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Offers valid between December 1st, 2009 and January 4th, 2010. ††MSRP for a new 2010 Altima Sedan 2.5 S (T4RG10 AE00), CVT transmission/2010 Versa Hatch 1.8 S (B5LG50 AA00), manual transmission/2010 Sentra (C4LG50 AA00), manual transmission. Freight and PDE charges ($1,400)/($1,325)/($1,325), license, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax, where applicable) are extra. All prices are subject to change without notice. Retailer may sell for less. ▲Actual mileage may vary with driving conditions - use for comparison only. ▲▲Models shown $31,898 MSRP for a new 2010 Altima Sedan 3.5 SR (T4SG10 AA00), CVT transmission/$17,398 MSRP for a new 2010 Versa Hatch 1.8 SL (B5RG50 AA00), manual transmission/$23,098 MSRP for a new 2010 Sentra 2.0 SL (C4TG10 AA00), CVT transmission. Freight and PDE charges ($1,400)/($1,325)/($1,325), license, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax, where applicable) are extra. All prices are subject to change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. Retailer may sell for less. [1]The Nissan Altima received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among midsize cars in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2009 U.S. Initial Quality Study℠. Study based on responses from 80,930 U.S. new-vehicle owners, measuring 245 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February-May 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. [2]WardsAuto.com's Lower Small segment, January 2009. [3]WardsAuto.com's Lower Small segment, January 2009. 2010 Versa vs. 2009 competitors. [4]The 2010 Versa Hatch is winner of a Consumers Digest Best Buy Award. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications, LLC, used under license. [5]Government star ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). U.S. model tested. Please see www.safercar.gov for up to date information. ▪For a limited time receive up to $1,000 Grad discount available on select models when leasing or financing a new 2009 or 2010 Nissan. See retailer for complete Grad program details.

Flex called future collector car

The Ford Flex has been named the most likely vehicle of 2009 to be desired by future collectors by the Friends of the National Automotive History Collection (NAHC) in Detroit. Previous winners include the 2008 Dodge Challenger and 2007 Dodge Viper SRT10. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

'09's Top 10? Make that 11

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

The Nissan Cube, left, and Ford Taurus are two of Michael Goetz's picks for best cars of 2009.

Yes Virginia, this is another year-end top-ten list.

Maybe you and Virginia are thinking, "enough already."

I feel your pain, but we must do this. If we don't, it will contravene that law of the universe, which states that if you don't get all those top ten lists in by the end of any year, the next one won't start properly.

So here we go with our totally subjective picks for the best vehicular moves in calendar year 2009.

Lots of good stuff at the small end of the market this year (Mazda3, Kia Soul, Honda Insight), but for me, the **Nissan Cube**, stood out like a psychedelic Maytag. Very fun. Very useful.

If we move up the food chain just a bit, you have to tip your hat to the new **VW Golf**, the recently knighted "World Car of the Year." Our favourite Golf variant is the TDI Wagon.

BMW X6 M — you are a totally outrageous and unnecessary SUV, trying to seduce good citizens away from more responsible transportation, so you can just … give me a call sometime.

GM might have blown the timing of the **Chevrolet Camaro** debut, but not the car. For boomers so inclined, the car is right on the muscle-car money.

Swinging back to the practical again, we really like the new **Subaru Legacy and Outback** models, an intelligent evolution of a great concept — efficient and low-centre-of-gravity boxier engine, all-wheel-drive, and just-right-sizing for a family of four.

Something more first classy? We're smitten with the new **Mercedes-Benz E Class sedan**. It's got space-station levels of computerization and innovation, but also manages to retain its persona as a fine, traditional European motorcar.

We have to include at least one honest-to-goodness truck, and the all-new **Dodge Ram Heavy Duty** is, as advertised, heavy duty to the max. Equipped with the Cummings diesel engine, it can pull a bungalow off its foundations, and then show off some more, by dragging it around the block a few times.

It's not really ready for prime time, but earlier this year, 500 all-electric **Mini E** units were leased out to drivers in several U.S. cities. We like how it's doing a lot of heavy lifting in the real-world testing of "plug ins" and their infrastructure issues, and how it makes the case that EVs don't have to look like, or perform like, re-worked golf carts.

To these eyes the new **Ford Taurus** is a little too big, but we like almost everything else about it, especially as it signals a return of a certain Americana esthetic and presence in the full-size car class.

We wanted to end our list with something exotic, but couldn't decide between the **Aston Martin One-77** and the **Ferrari California**.

The Aston costs about $1.7 million, makes 700-plus horses, and only 77 will ever be built. Who can argue with number like that?

Even so, the California is so tempting with it's front midship V8 engine, retro convertible profile, relative value (about $200 grand), and huge performance capabilities.

So we didn't decide and gave thumbs up to both of them.

Yes Virginia, this top ten list goes to eleven. Get over it.

Ferrari California

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

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Nissan X-Trail has loyal fans

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
for Metro Canada

MODEL: 2005 to 2006 Nissan X-Trail

VEHICLE TYPE: Small SUV

APPROXIMATE USED PRICE RANGE: $9,000 to $15,000

HISTORY/DESCRIPTION: The Nissan X-Trail was launched as a 2005 model to duke it out with models like the Ford Escape, Honda CR-V, Hyundai Tuscon and Mitsubishi Outlander.

Ultimately, the Nissan Rogue replaced the X-Trail after only 2 years on sale– but not before the popular X-Trail found homes in the driveways of thousands of Canadians.

X-Trail could be ordered in a front-drive designation designed for on-road-only driving, though many owners opted for the selectable four wheel drive system.

This was ideal for those who needed to tackle trails, nasty winter conditions or cottage roads on a regular basis.

The X-Trail's 4x4 system even had a locking mode for extra traction in slippery situations.

Despite the capability, a unibody construction and four-wheel independent suspension ensured a car-like driving feel.

Second Gear

WHAT OWNERS LIKE: Styling, flexibility and ruggedness are among the top attributes of the X-Trail as reported by owners. X-Trail is an easy machine to configure for nearly any trip or chore, and many owners report a planted and confident feeling in four wheel drive models when travelling through winter or off-road conditions.

WHAT OWNERS HATE: Some owners wish for better fuel consumption.

COMMON ISSUES: The X-Trail wasn't on sale for long in our market, so reliability information is limited. No major problems were reported by Canadian owners, nor by the American owners to whom the X-Trail was sold for years before it arrived in Canada.

That said, be sure to check for a common rust problem just above either rear wheel.

THE VERDICT: X-Trail is just one entry in a sea of crossovers and SUV's — but it earned a loyal and happy following of owners with its features, capability and seemingly trouble-free operation.

$21 million for research projects at uWaterloo, WLU
The Ontario government announced Friday $21 million for projects involving over 300 researchers at the University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Go small for a good education

According to an article on The Globe and Mail's website, the presidents of Mount Allison University, Bishop's University, Acadia University and St. Francis Xavier University weigh in on the emerging debate on undergraduate education in Canada. The presidents state that students who arrive at university with a less defined career path have the most to gain from a small, primarily undergraduate university, whose priorities include first-rate teaching in small classes. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Workology in **brief**

STUDENT ORIENTED MARKETING An article in Friday's Globe and Mail takes notice of a trend in post-secondary institutions developing ad campaigns appealing to today's prospective students by taking into consideration their mindset, targeting them where they're at, and focusing on what kind of experience they would be provided on campus.

WOMEN'S STUDIES NAME CHANGE Queen's University's senate has approved a proposal to change the name of the school's Department of Women's Studies to the Department of Gender Studies, effective Jan. 1. The new name reflects an ongoing shift as traditional women's studies heads towards a multi-faceted approach that incorporates racial, gendered, and sexual diversity.

ESL AND RETENTION BIG AT LAURIER Wilfrid Laurier University has approved three projects for the $200,000 President's Innovation Seed Fund. One project will introduce ESL programming to WLU, another program will aim to increase retention rates by assisting first-year faculty of arts students who are struggling academically.

QUEEN'S IN DIFFICULT PERIOD "I suggest the time has come to do less with less," Queen's University principal Daniel Woolf tells the Globe and Mail, acknowledging that the immediate future will be a challenge as the school shoulders a rising debt load. On top of implementing a 15 per cent budget cut over the next four years, Woolf plans to review the university's academic priorities and renew its focus on undergraduate programs. As part of his cost-cutting plan, Woolf has asked professors to reduce their planned raises by two per cent next year, a request that was refused by the faculty association. The union argues the university's financial difficulties result from mismanagement.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Why not Be a Santa for a Senior?

The greatest gift some will get this season is a smile on another's face

MAT LECOMPTE
for Metro Canada

For many, this time of year is filled with holiday cheer. Friends, family and loved ones come together to celebrate the season, putting smiles on the faces they care about most.

For others, the holidays can be a reminder of just how lonely and isolated they are. It's with these people in mind that businesses and volunteers take to the streets to dedicate their time and effort to make the holiday season special for everyone.

The Be a Santa for a Senior Program, run all over the world by Home Instead Senior Care, works to spread holiday cheer to needy and isolated seniors in their communities.

Greg Bechard, of Home Instead Senior Care, says without programs like this many seniors would be forgotten at Christmas. He says it's easy to see how important it is to them when the gifts are delivered and presented in their homes.

"It's touching," he said. "It will put a lump in your throat. The real appreciation is that someone has taken the time to think about them during this busy time. It's a very emotional experience for everyone involved in the program."

The material gifts themselves, Bechard said, come in a distant second to the fact that for maybe just one day, the person who received it was remembered. He says most of the gift requests are simple items like gloves or deodorant.

Greg Bechard, not pictured here, says many seniors would be forgotten in the holiday season, that's why Be a Santa for a Senior is important.

"It's unfortunate that seniors are often forgotten about. Especially when they've done so much for our communities."
Avalon Woods owner Cleo Chmielinski

"It's unfortunate we don't think about this all year," he said. "But it's nice to give back and share a small piece."

And share a small piece they do. Working with various retailers and non-profit community organizations across the country, regional lists are composed of seniors in need. These seniors could be in financial distress, isolated from their families or have no family at all.

With the help of various organizations, these seniors send in gift requests. The requests are, in turn, displayed on Christmas trees as ornaments — each personalized — at participating retail locations. Shoppers can then pick up an ornament and purchase the gift request. The gift is sent to a "wrapping party," where it is prepared.

Avalon Woods Health Club in Etobicoke, Ont., is just one of the retail locations displaying the ornaments. Owner Cleo Chmielinski says the program has received a great reception among members. In fact, she even hosts an annual wrapping party at the club for volunteers.

To her, a program like Be a Santa for a Senior is extremely important for the community as a whole. "It's unfortunate that seniors are often forgotten about," she told Metro, "especially when they've done so much for our communities."

This year, Bechard estimates there's between 5,000 — 6,000 gifts ready for wrapping in Toronto alone.

Additionally, everyone who submitted a gift request will receive what they asked for.

If you'd like to find a way to help — whether by buying a gift or attending a wrapping party, visit the program's website at beasantatoasenior.ca.

Once your there, enter your postal code for the nearest retail outlet/office.

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University of Alberta increases student fees to address budget woes
Last Friday, the University of Alberta's board of governors approved proposals recommending increases in tuition, rent, and parking rates. Next September, students will see a tuition increase of 1.5 per cent, the maximum allowed under provincial legislation. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Deck the halls — and the city

From coast to coast, Canadian cities bring the holiday season to life with decorations

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

In case you didn't know the holiday season was upon us, the festive decorations throughout your city have probably reminded you by now.

Every year Canadian cities invest in outdoor decorations because making the streets look good is an important part of getting people into the spirit of Christmas.

In Vancouver's premiere shopping district of South Granville, 11 blocks of primarily high end home decor boutiques, art galleries and antique stores are being dressed up to the nines with new planters, banners, wreaths and other street-level decorations by the district's own Business Improvement Association (BIA).

Sharon Townsend, a spokesperson for the South Granville BIA, says the upcoming Olympics means this year they're pulling out all the stops for decoration.

"Our neighbourhood is undergoing a simply enormous transformation. We're pushing the Olympic theme and making sure the streets are festive and clean," Townsend said.

To encourage individual store owners throughout neighbourhood to contribute to its beautification, the South Granville BIA offers marketing grants to members and has created a $320,000 decoration campaign with prizes awarded to the businesses that best decorate their exterior areas. A good-looking neighbourhood is beneficial for all business owners, Townsend says.

"We encourage decor outside the box. It's a way to distinguish yourself because what people see out of their car window is what brings them back afterwards. There's a great opportunity to take pride in what you do as a business owner or as a city itself," Townsend said.

Across the country in downtown Toronto, workers have transformed the space in front of City Hall with lights, wreaths and an enormous, 62-foot high spruce tree — the city's official Christmas tree for the season.

Neil Weller, 63 and president of Weller Tree services, has provided Toronto's official tree for the past 46 years and says the responsibility is a great honour.

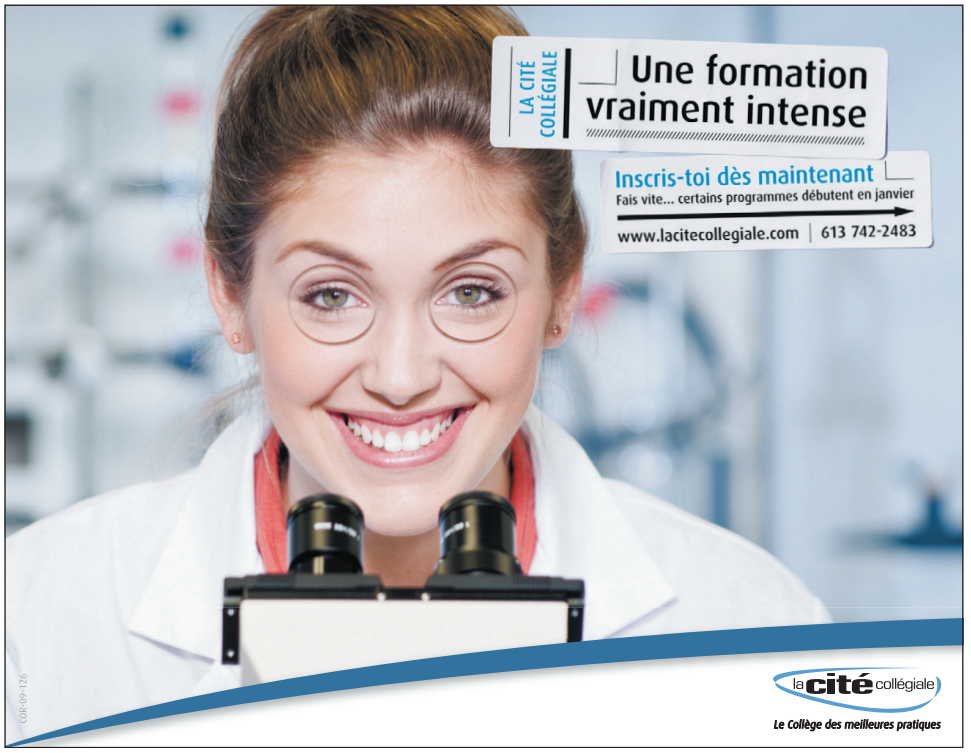
"We're very proud of it. When everything lights up it's a big bonus for us and it's an honour to be doing it every year," Weller said.

Kevin O'Reilly, 48, is the maintenance foreman from Toronto City Hall in charge of decorating the official tree every year as well as running preparations for Toronto's city-wide Cavalcade of Lights celebration. O'Reilly and his team work hard to decorate the tree because the tree is an important symbol of holiday cheer.

"The Christmas tree is the centre of attention — it's the most important part of the decorations. Everybody works together and there's a passion for it," O'Reilly said.

The team starts around Labour Day, usually about six weeks in advance of the celebration, collecting resources together and sending crews out to beautify the city. The tree itself takes two weeks to decorate. Despite the amount of effort involved, O'Reilly says it's all worth it in the end.

"Watching people's faces light up when the lights come on makes all the work worth the effort. It gets people in the Christmas mood, happy and smiling for the season," O'Reilly said.



UWO president sets out priorities for coming year
Last Friday, University of Western Ontario president Amit Chakma released a 22-point document listing his priorities for 2009-10. Chakma has outlined five major areas: Strategic leadership; students; graduate education and research; finances; and the external community. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Essay writing as part of PSE?

It's essay crunch time on campus. Kelsi O'Rourke had three papers due last Wednesday in women's studies, neuroscience and psychology.

But as she worked late, the Brock University student would click on an unusual online game to remind herself about essay structure, forming arguments and citing sources in scholarly style.

The flashy new web tutorial called Essay-Zone, designed by Brock staff, uses graphics, jokes and quizzes to teach students how to write a post-secondary essay.

It's one of the more high-tech tools universities are using as they scramble to shore up the writing skills of students who they say, without Grade 13, bring less maturity and knowledge to the post-secondary table.

It's a concern at universities across the GTA.

"As much as high school tries to prepare you for university essays, it can never prepare you enough — I'm still handing in essays in second year that I think will get better marks than they get," said O'Rourke, 19, a psychology major.

"So I found it helped to have a tool I could click on at any hour because I've never had anyone actually teach me how to write a university essay."

Jill Brindle, Brock's learning skills manager, designed the online help for students who were too shy or self-conscious to get help face-to-face. "We made it like a game — very playful, with humour and lots of click-and-drag activities that give immediate feedback." Now used by more than 2,000 Brock students — some classes give two to 15 per cent of the class mark for finishing the tutorial — Essay Zone has drawn interest from universities in Montreal, Calgary, Texas and Hong Kong.

"We have come to realize that (students') writing skills are very weak."
Brock Professor Andrew McDonald

But using the tutorial with students is just one way Brock professor Andrew McDonald tries to bridge students' gap in writing skills. He revamped his first-year European history course to spend more time on the skills of research, writing and formulating a thesis.

"We have come to realize that writing skills are very weak and it's no longer possible to just ignore that," said McDonald, "so I spend less time on content now and more on analytical and writing skills.

"Students really need quite a bit of assistance with the mechanics of research. You just cannot go into a first-year class and expect they know how to write an essay."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Just because a student is able to get an A+ on an essay in Grade 12 does not mean they will achieve those heights at university.

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Miami hotel guests moved after guest dies

About 300 guests have been relocated from a luxury Miami hotel after one former guest died and at least two others have become sick since Oct. from Legionnaires' disease. Health officials say the guests at the EPIC Hotel were moved to prevent potential contact with the waterborne bacterial disease. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Travel

Handcrafted carousel rides into B.C.

A new carousel has opened at the Butchart Gardens on Vancouver Island and it's all lit up for Christmas. The Rose Carousel, crafted by Brass Ring Entertainment of Sun Valley, Calif., is the only carousel on Vancouver Island. The 30 animal rides were handcarved from basswood and include bears, horses, ostriches and zebras. The carousel also includes two chariots. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

5 Winter fairy tale getaways

Destinations to keep you busy all over the Christmas break

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
Metro World News

METRO WORLD NEWS

The days may be short in Finnish Lapland but the fun certainly isn't. From snowmobiling to tobogganing, winter games are plentiful.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Cafes are many on our list

Fancy a bit of pre-Christmas sparkle to get you in the mood for the festive season?

Metro picks out five top destinations which really shine in winter.

Most destinations are at their most charming and beautiful during the winter months, so it's recommended you plan to go soon. Cozy cafes, stunning Christmas markets and snow-studded scenes are what make each individual destination so special.

Aim to visit between now and February, when you can really make the most of the festive and magical vibe that enveloped each city during the months of winter.

ZADAR, CROATIA

Sound of the Sea

Nestled on the Northern Dalmatian coast, Zadar feels somehow isolated from the rest of Croatia. It is rich in history; the city gates date back to the Renaissance and are guarded by a ferocious looking Venetian lion.

And for full-on spookiness listen to the sounds of the Sea Organ on the front.

Built by architect Nikola Bašic, the organ plays random notes as the seawater crashes into the pipes.

BRUGES, BRUSSELS

Medieval Magic

Medieval, sensual, magical and gothic … Bruges is the most extraordinary, ordinary place.

Serving as a cultural bridge between North and South Europe throughout the 14th and 15th century, daily life has become rather sleepy since it ended.

But, under the dormant surface lies an eclectic culture shaped by centuries of battle and hardships.

Meander around the streets by horse drawn carriage or stop off at Café Vlissinghe (cafevlissinghe.be) the oldest Cafe in Bruges for traditional Belgian beer.

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Opera, cafes and Christmas

Vienna embraces the festive period like few other cities.

The joie de vivre (possibly helped along by the delicious gluhwien sold on the streets) is contagious and the café culture reflects this; Café Drechsler (cafedrechsler.at) serves delicious brioche and scrambled eggs. The city is also a musical hub, The Staatsoper Opera (Opernring 2) — once the local hangout of Mozart and Beethoven — has some spectacular shows.

FINNISH LAPLAND, FINLAND

Toboggan time

With a white Christmas guaranteed Finnish Lapland is the ultimate winter wonderland. The days may be ridiculously short, but that's the least of your worries when you're too busy having fun snowmobiling, tobogganing or husky-sledding (most are floodlit when the sun goes down… just after breakfast). Stay in the village of Saariselkä; the indigenous Sámi people are amazing hosts and have plenty of fascinating winter tales to tell to brighten up the long nights.

LES CERNIERS, SWITZERLAND

An Eskimo Experience

A holiday without running water or electricity may not sound like the most enchanting experience. But a stay at Whitepod (whitepod.com), a mountainside chalet east of Lake Geneva, may change your mind. You'll feel a bit like an Eskimo once settled in your igloo-like tent but there are plenty of sheepskin rugs, hot water bottles and wood burners to keep you warm. Climbing mountains in the snow may leave you feeling cramped and sore, thankfully you can indulge in a Thai foot massage in the central chalet's Spa and 30 minutes away are the hot thermal springs of Lavey Les Bains.

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Your complete list of German markets

Find an English list of Germany's different Christmas markets and what they feature, compiled by Germany's national tourism office here: germany-tourism.de/ENG/culture_and_events/christmas_markets. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

German markets light up the holiday

The run-up to Dec. 25 in Germany is marked not just by a rush of shopping, but also by the nation's many convivial Christmas markets.

While the most renowned are the massive markets in Dresden and Nuremberg, many find the season is best celebrated at the dozens of smaller markets across the nation, like the one in Rothenburg ob der Tauber.

Here, locals and visitors alike pack the central Reiterlesmarkt square to enjoy the intimate nature of the quaint town.

Surrounded by medieval walls that date back to the 12th century, Rothenburg is also home to Kaethe Wohlfahrt, makers of ornaments and wooden carvings that are popular year-round with tourists, but that really grab attention in the Christmas season.

A couple of hours southwest of Rothenburg, visitors to Esslingen have the choice of visiting either a modern or a medieval Christmas market — which takes all the fantasy of medieval dress, customs, traditions and food and places it in a market atmosphere.

The Erfurt Christmas Market is the most popular in Germany.

A ferris wheel stands in the heart of Erfurt, central Germany

Steffi Fasora, dressed in a long, blue robe, invited children to play a game with a live mouse that is set down in the middle of a ring of wooden boxes, each of which is claimed by a child.

The rodent, dubbed a "magical mouse from India," ducks into one of the boxes, making that child the winner.

Bringing joy into Germany is what Christmas markets are all about, said Fasora, who works at medieval markets across the region.

A child looks into a kiosk with traditional Thuringian handcrafts and sweets

Decembers are dark and gloomy, "and people are usually sitting in the house and being depressed," she said.

"That is why we set up a Christmas market — to bring the people out here, to have fun, to meet each other, to spend their money of course. This is what it's all about."

A couple of stalls down, bakers baked bread sticks in a wood-burning oven. A bagpiper in a long brown robe strolled around and children made their own hand-dipped candles.

Just an hour northwest of Esslingen by train, the Heidelberg market is set up in several spots along the city's 1.6 km-long pedestrian street through the heart of the old city.

At the far end, skaters glide on a rink below the ruins of the city's famous castle, built in the 1200s.

Handcrafts are among the most popular items sold at the markets, including wooden bowls, nativity figurines, ornaments and beeswax candles.

In Konstanz, on the Swiss border, the twinkling lights of the Christmas market stretch through the heart of downtown to the shores of Lake Constance, where a Christmas Boat floated with handcrafted items for sale. Regional fish were stuffed into rolls completes the experience of old world charm.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Just another perk at your Caribbean resort?

One bite from an infected mosquito can put you at risk for malaria, even at a 5-star resort. Malaria is a serious disease that can lead to prolonged illness, or even death. You can help protect yourself by avoiding mosquito bites and taking medication to prevent malaria.

Come back with memories… not malaria. Before you travel, talk to a doctor.

www.malariafacts.ca

Famous hockey arena
The Olympic Ice Arena where the U.S. team won that gold nearly 30 years ago sits at the south end of Main Street in Lake Placid, and its hockey rinks have made it a hotbed for Canadian teams in youth tournaments. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lake Placid has 10 lifts to get you back up the mountain quicker.

Placid a thrill in all seasons

Two-time Olympic Games host boasts acclaimed ski routes

Jim Shea paused for more than a moment, almost unable to imagine the thought of Lake Placid without the legacy of hosting two Winter Olympic games, in 1932 and 1980.

"We'd just be a sleepy little Adirondack town, just a small little Adirondack resort," said Shea, an Olympic skier whose father helped bring the games back to Lake Placid for the second time.

The village, nestled in the High Peaks region of the Adirondack Mountains, was a pioneer American resort in popularizing snow and presenting winter attractions to the public. Yet unlike so many ski areas, Lake Placid began as a summer destination and remains so, with two-thirds of its tourism coming between Memorial Day and Columbus Day.

But it was the 1932 Olympics that made Lake Placid famous around the world. And with the opening of Whiteface Mountain Ski Center in 1958, town leaders began dreaming of another taste of the Winter Games.

MIKE GROLL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paddling on Mirror Lake in Lake Placid is one of the many outdoor activities the area offers.

Today the town has something for visitors in every season — from hiking to mountain biking to tobogganing onto Mirror Lake to enjoying fall foliage. Top winter athletes train and compete at its Olympic venues, so there's often an ice show, ski jumping, bobsled, or luge to watch, and the largest annual event is the Ironman triathlon in July, which attracts upward of 2,500 participants.

76 The mountain boasts 76 trails and features a vertical drop of 1,045m.

The mountain boasts 76 trails, 10 lifts and a vertical drop of 1,045 metres, highest of any ski resort east of the Rockies, and hosts World Cup events every year. In an average year, which usually begins in early December, 200,000 people, many from metropolitan New York City and southwestern Ontario, will ski there. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Suri top child fashion poll

Suri Cruise has been named the most fashionable child celebrity, in a new poll by Adams Childrenswear. The three-year-old beat the Beckham brothers and Madonna's stylish daughter Lourdes for the top spot. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Entertainment

New Auntie

Kim Kardashian got an early Christmas present: A nephew. "I'm an auntie!!!!" she Twittered hours after her sister, Kourtney, gave birth to a healthy baby boy in Los Angeles Monday. USMAGAZINE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Up In The Air leads Globes

Directors Reitman, Cameron among Canadian nominees

Films from Canadian directors Jason Reitman and James Cameron were among those leading the Golden Globe contenders Tuesday, with Reitman's recession-era tale Up In The Air and Cameron's sci-fi epic Avatar both racking up nods in key categories.

Up In The Air leads the pack overall with six nominations, among them best drama and acting honours for George Clooney, Vera Farmiga and Anna Kendrick, and nods for directing and writing for the Montreal-born Reitman.

"I can't put into words how exciting it is to feel and to know that I'll be going to the Golden Globes with everyone I worked with on this film," Reitman said. "This was one of those ensembles that we really enjoyed working together. We're a tight-knit family. The idea that we're going together is just wonderful."

Avatar scored four, including best drama and director for the blockbuster filmmaker Cameron, originally from the mining town of Kapuskasing, Ont.

The directing category pits him against ex-wife Kathryn Bigelow for the Iraq War tale The Hurt Locker, also up for best drama. Other directing nominees were Clint Eastwood for the South African rugby drama Invictus and Quentin Tarantino for his Second World War rewrite Inglourious Basterds.

Inglourious Basterds also landed a best drama nod, as did the Harlem drama Precious: Based on the Novel Push by Sapphire.

The musical Nine ran second with five nominations, including best musical or comedy and acting slots for Daniel Day-Lewis, Penelope Cruz and Marion Cotillard.

Up against it for best musical or comedy are the romance (500) Days of Summer, the bachelor-party bash The Hangover and two Meryl Streep films, It's Complicated and Julie&Julia.

Up in the Air generally has been considered a comedy, but its inclusion in the drama category could give it more weight as a potential favourite for the Academy Awards, where dramatic films tend to dominate.

It's a third-time triumph for Reitman, the 32-year-old son of legendary Canadian director Ivan Reitman (Stripes, Ghostbusters).

His previous two films both scored nominations at the Golden Globes as well, with the 2007 teen pregnancy comedy Juno, earning a best comedy nod before going on to nab additional nominations at the Oscars.

TV series Mad Men, left, and director Jason Reitman, above, are among the nominees.

m.metronews.ca

Scan this barcode for a full list of the Golden Globes nominees, or read it at metronews.ca/entertainment.

Reitman's first film was the acclaimed Thank You for Smoking in 2005, which racked up two Golden Globe nominations.

Playing a frequent-flyer junkie in Up in the Air, Clooney competes for best dramatic actor with Jeff Bridges as a boozy country singer in Crazy Heart, Colin Firth as a grieving gay academic in A Single Man, Morgan Freeman as Nelson Mandela in Invictus and Tobey Maguire as a prisoner of war in Brothers.

Cameron's triumph comes as the visionary releases his most ambitious outing yet, a 3-D technological feat billed as the most expensive film ever made. His long-awaited return to the feature film spotlight comes 12 years after his Oscar-winning historical epic, Titanic.

In TV categories, nominations for drama series went to HBO's Big Love, Showtime's Dexter, Fox's House, AMC's Mad Men and HBO's True Blood. Musical or comedy series bids went to NBC's 30 Rock, HBO's Entourage, Fox's Glee, ABC's Modern Family and NBC's The Office.

Hollywood's second biggest film honours after the Oscars, the Globes are a key ceremony that sort out the prospects leading up to the Oscar nominations Feb. 2. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Nominees

- **Picture, Drama:** Avatar, The Hurt Locker, Inglourious Basterds, Precious: Based on the Novel Push by Sapphire, Up in the Air.
- **Picture, Musical or Comedy:** (500) Days of Summer, The Hangover, It's Complicated, Julie&Julia, Nine.
- **Actor, Drama:** Jeff Bridges, Crazy Heart; George Clooney, Up in the Air; Colin Firth, A Single Man; Morgan Freeman, Invictus; Tobey Maguire, Brothers.
- **Actress, Drama:** Emily Blunt, The Young Victoria; Sandra Bullock, The Blind Side; Helen Mirren, The Last Station; Carey Mulligan, An Education; Gabourey Sidibe, Precious: Based on the Novel Push by Sapphire.
- **Director:** Kathryn Bigelow, The Hurt Locker; James Cameron, Avatar; Clint Eastwood, Invictus; Jason Reitman, Up in the Air; Quentin Tarantino, Inglourious Basterds.
- **Actor, Musical or Comedy:** Matt Damon, The Informant!; Daniel Day-Lewis, Nine; Robert Downey Jr., Sherlock Holmes; Joseph Gordon-Levitt, (500) Days of Summer; Michael Stuhlbarg, A Serious Man.
- **Actress, Musical or Comedy:** Sandra Bullock, The Proposal; Marion Cotillard, Nine; Julia Roberts, Duplicity; Meryl Streep, It's Complicated; Meryl Streep, Julie&Julia.

Polanski film to premiere in Berlin

PEOPLE Roman Polanski's latest movie, The Ghost Writer, will have its world premiere at the Berlin film festival in February, organizers said yesterday.

Polanski's movie was among a first batch of entries in the festival's main program that was announced yesterday — among them a premiere of Martin Scorsese's Shutter Island. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro

Moss relocating to France

Kate Moss is moving to Paris. The supermodel has put down a deposit on a $35 million apartment in the French capital and is planning to move there in the spring with her daughter Lila. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment in brief

AUCTION An unusual piece of Charles Dickens memorabilia is being auctioned in New York City: his ivory and gold toothpick. It's up for sale Tuesday at Bonhams New York. The presale estimate is $3,000 US to $5,000 US. The toothpick is engraved with the author's initials. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hollywood's famed P.I.

A historic look at pop culture's fascination with Sherlock

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

Very soon, one of the most iconic figures in popular culture will be making his latest global appearance on Christmas Day. And contrary to what you may be thinking, I'm not talking about Santa Claus.

When Sherlock Holmes hits theatres on Dec. 25, it'll mark over a Century's worth of cinema starring fiction's most famous detective. But while the fictional British bloodhound tries to upstage St. Nick on Christmas Day, his celluloid appearance is certainly not unfamiliar.

Jude Law, left, and Robert Downey Jr., star in the newest big screen version of Sherlock Holmes.

Ever since Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's prized investigator made his on-screen debut in 1900 with a one-reeler called Sherlock Holmes Baffled, Hollywood has been smitten with the gumshoe. Since, Holmes has made more than 200 film and TV appearances and been portrayed by such thespians as Basil Rathbone, Michael Caine, Charlton Heston and Canada's own Christopher Plummer.

Sherlock Holmes opens in theatres Dec. 25

So, what's made Holmes perhaps Hollywood's most popular private eye? Well, according to a leading member of a Calgary-based appreciation group called The Singular Society of the Baker Street Dozen, it's elementary, dear Watson.

"First off is the love affair that the screen has with the mystery genre," said Charles Prepolec. "When you boil it all down, people are a curious lot and enjoy seeing a secret revealed or a mystery unraveled."

Of course, the mystery yet to be revealed is whether the latest modern twist on Holmes will live up to hardcore fans' high expectations.

"I've been very skeptical about the casting of Robert Downey Jr," admitted Prepolec. "You might say I'm in the cautiously optimistic camp although some members of (our group) are perhaps somewhat less sanguine about the film. We'll see soon enough!"

Indeed we will. In the meantime, for fresh enthusiasts who want to investigate Holmes' Hollywood history, here's a list of three versions of Sherlock to get your Wats' on:

1) The Sherlock Holmes Collection – Just released to DVD, this celebrated BBC series from the 1960s starred Peter Cushing as the legendary sleuth.

2) The Hound of the Baskervilles (1939) – Basil Rathbone played Holmes in 14 films but many critics say this early classic was the portrayal that shaped the rest.

3) Young Sherlock Holmes (1985) – Ever wonder how Holmes handled puberty? This family flick by director Barry Levinson (Rain Man) explored the pipe-smoking private eye as a pimply-faced teenager.

METRO HOCKEY POOL STANDINGS*

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NAME	LOCATION	GP	G	A	PTS
1. Joanne Doiron	NB, CA	415	173	256	429
2. Christian Gagnon	NB, CA	417	175	248	423
3. Kyle Turk	NS, CA	421	194	225	419
4. Cole Warren	NS, CA	422	151	267	418
4. Steve Ferguson	ON, CA	421	174	244	418
6. Jonathon Gremsperger	BC, CA	418	180	233	413
6. Kelly Wrishko	AB, CA	417	171	242	413
6. Paula Almeida-Stille		421	173	240	413
6. Stephen Stille	ON, CA	421	173	240	413
10. Rick Kit	ON, CA	417	179	232	411
11. Shawn Tschritter	AB, CA	417	171	239	410
12. Jean-Paul Osborne	QC, CA	413	169	238	407
13. Brian B	AB, CA	417	173	233	406
13. Claude Brunelle	BC, CA	424	167	239	406
13. Sarah Jackson	ON, CA	409	162	244	406

* Results exclude Quebec

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cable variety primetime

DT	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
12/16/09	265	353	2	TVO	Saving Our Seabirds		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		New Tricks		Empire of the Word (N)		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Bones (HDTV PA)		Saturday Night Live Presents: A Very Gilly Christmas				News Final
	-	-	5	SRC	La Petite vie	*Nitro* (2007, Action) Guillaume Lemay-Thivierge. (SC)				Tout le monde	Le Téléjournal Nouvelles. (SC)		La Zone (SC)
	209	342	6	CHRO	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	Old Christine	The Middle	The Vampire Diaries		(10:01) Eastwick (N)		Comedy Now
	196	311	7	CTV	etalk	Access H.	So You Think You Can Dance The winner is announced.				CSI: NY (HDTV) (N)		CTV News
	208	303	8	CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Christmas Dreams		Holiday Festival on Ice		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Our: Greatest Generation		The Sing-Off (N)		The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	117	713	10	TVA	Poule-oeufs or	KM/h (N) (SC)	*Noël avec les Krank* ★★ (2004, Comédie) Tim Allen.				TVA nouvelles	(10:45) Juste pour rire (SC)	
	-	-	11	QS	Merlin (N) (SC)		*3 voeux pour Noël* (2006, Drame) Amber Benson. Début.				Guerre clans	L'Attaque à 5 (N)	
	137	763	12	TFO	Panorama		Campesinos... la terre		*Docteur Akagi* ★★ (1998, Drame) Akira Emoto, Kumiko Aso.				Passions
	-	362	13	CBS	The Insider (N)	Judge Brown	Old Christine	Unmarried	Criminal Minds (N)		CSI: NY (HDTV) (N)		Two/Half Men
	216	395	14	OMN2	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King/Queens	Cold Case
	214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Cougar Town	The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	115	343	16	CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Office	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Metropia
	218	345	18	CHCH	*Crocodile Dundee* ★★★ (1986, Comedy) Paul Hogan.				*Wayne's World* ★★ (1992, Comedy) Mike Myers, Rob Lowe.				News at 11 (N)
	-	361	20	ABC	Action News	Entertainment	Prep- Landing	The Middle	Modern Family	Cougar Town	(10:01) Eastwick (N)		News
	512	396	24	CPAC	Dossier public (SC)		Heure polit.	L'Heure politique				Tête-à-tête	Podium
	651	355	25	CTS	Little House on the Prairie		Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman		100 Huntley Street		Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	So You Think You Can Dance The winner is announced.				FOX 2 News (N)		News
	-	-	64	PBS	Business Rpt.	From the Top	WPBS Live!		Great Performances at the Met "Tosca" (N)				
	205	312	104	CTV	etalk	Access H.	So You Think You Can Dance The winner is announced.				CSI: NY (HDTV) (N)		CTV News
news	502	390	26	NW	Connect Today's biggest stories. (N)				CBC News: The National		Planet Earth		National
	500	500	33	CNN	CNN Tonight (N)		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
sports	406	417	27	net	Boxing Jelena Mrdjenovich vs. Ann Saccurato.				The Ultimate Fighter (HDTV)		Sportsnet Connected		Prime Time
	126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	400	280	30	TSN	That's Hockey!	NHL Hockey Phoenix Coyotes at Toronto Maple Leafs. (HDTV) (Live)					NHL Hockey: Ducks at Canucks		
	410	403	52	SCR	NBA Basketball Toronto Raptors at Orlando Magic. (Live)					Court Surfing	NBA news, scores and highlights.		Score Now
family	411	457	56	OLN	Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter
	417	406	59	SC	Pass Time	Pass Time	Dangerous Drives (HDTV)		Pass Time	Pass Time	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride
	554	544	48	TEL	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Robot Chicken
	557	540	51	FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
	551	542	65	YTV	Naked	Rocko's Life	Hates Chris	Fresh Prince	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Adrenaline Proj
	570	580	29	MM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Entourage	Wild 'n Out	mmtop10.ca
	615	520	31	A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Steven Seagal	Steven Seagal	Steven Seagal
	628	584	32	SPKE	UFC Fight Night (HDTV)				Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	MANswers (N)	MANswers
	521	560	34	TLC	Little Couple	Little Couple	Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Dwarf Adoption Story		I'm Pregnant	I'm Pregnant	Cake Boss
	145	761	35	TV5	Devoir d'enquête		*Mauvaise Foi* ★★★ (2006, Comédie) Roschdy Zem.				Mixeur	Sport	TV5 Le Journal
	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		The Guard		Cra$h & Burn		Bones		NCIS
	620	523	40	BVO	The Achievers	Bravo!Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan File	Wingfield	Star Portraits	White Collar "Free Fall"		Law & Order
	520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		Mighty Ships		Megabuilders		Mayday (N)		Daily Planet
	575	583	43	CMT	Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Due South
	601	562	45	SLC	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Nearly Dead	Nearly Dead	Nearly Dead	Newlywed	In-Laws	In-Laws	ET Canada
	625	548	46	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	RENO 911!	RENO 911!	Daily Show
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Law & Order: SVU		The Office	The Office	*Win a Date With Tad Hamilton!* (2004)		
	600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Unsellable	Intervention	Property Virgin	Unsellable	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes/Homes
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Medium (HDTV)		Supernatural "The End"		InnerSpace (N)
	581	566	53	MTV	Behind-Screen	Peak Season	Peak Season	After	Jersey Shore		Real World-Road Rules		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	King	King	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	King	King
	522	506	55	HIS	Ice Pilots NWT (N)		Life After People		Ice Road Truckers		Ice Pilots NWT (HDTV)		Outlaw Bikers
	129	773	60	CD	Biographies "Mel Gibson"		Paradis perdus (HDTV)		Destr Expr	Chasse	Autopsie (HDTV)		Images-chocs
	261	394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote		Keeping Up	Open All Hours	*The Christmas Hope* (2009, Drama) Madeleine Stowe.				Darling Buds
	602	567	62	W	*Silent Night* (2002, Drama) Linda Hamilton, Matthew Harbour.				*Under the Mistletoe* (2006, Drama) Jaime Ray Newman.				Confidential
	269	350	70	APTN	APTN InFocus	We Joggin' 2		Wings-Canada	Olympics: Away From Home		Great Towns	Venturing Frth	Storytellers
	621	527	71	TLK	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (N)		TMZ
	603	561	95	FN	Ricardo	Fresh-Anna	Challenge		Iron Chef America		Gordon Ramsay: Cook		Unwrapped

critics'corner

The New Adventures of Old Christine

Christine (Julia Louis-Dreyfus) reluctantly attends her neighbor's (guest star Molly Shannon) holiday block party, where she discovers a juicy secret about her hostess in the new episode "It's Beginning to Stink a Lot Like Christmas." Michaela Watkins ("Saturday Night Live") also guest stars as Lucy, Matthew's (Hamish Linklater) girlfriend. 8 PM on 13 CBS, 6 SHRO

Christmas Dreams

Cynthia Dale stars in this new holiday musical as a retired song-and-dance woman who runs a curio shop. When a lonely youngster (Maranda Thomas, "The Next Star") ventures into the store looking for a gift, the two become friends and embark on a series of magical journeys. Tom Cavanagh, Ed Asner and Henry Czerny also appear. The soundtrack includes such little-heard gems as "Boogie-Woogie Santa Claus" and Irving Berlin's "Count Your Blessings." 8 PM on 8 CBC

Kenya's Style
Kenya Hunt
Exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle

For complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and tickets, visit: metronews.ca/movies

50 Cent getting his Jolies
50 Cent knows exactly who he'd like to switch places with, if only temporarily. "I'd be Brad Pitt. Go sleep with Angelina (Jolie) and come back," the rapper tells Complex magazine. METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity Buzz

Adam Lambert is just being himself

RELAX, ALREADY Shocked over Adam Lambert's recent performance antics? Don't be, says American Idol winner Kris Allen, because there is more to come, people com reports.

"Yeah, that's who he is," Allen saya. "Obviously, he couldn't do that stuff on Idol. And so you're getting to see the real Adam now."

Lambert caused an uproar for his sexually charged performance on the American Music Awards last month.

"I thought it was Adam being Adam," Allen says of Lambert's AMA performance. "I'm going to get a shirt that just says, 'That's Adam.'"

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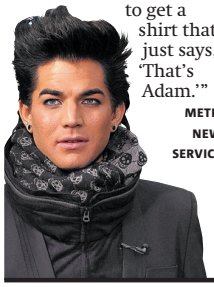

Rihanna is moving on

STAY STRONG, CARRY ON By continuing to speak out about Chris Brown's violent Feb. 8 attack, Rihanna says she is slowly moving past the ugly incident, usmagazine.com reports.

"It's relieving," the singer, 21, says in the January issue of GQ. "Because it was built up for so long, and all these thoughts and emotions have been running through my mind for the past eight months. And now it's like I finally get to let go and move on."

She says she finally decided to speak out about the incident because, "I wanted to move on. And I knew that was the only way I could have done it. And I wanted people to move on with me. 'Cause the last big thing they know about me is "that night". And I don't want that to be what people define me as."

"I didn't really want to be around anybody, for them to stare at me and stuff, and feel sorry for me," says the singer, who just dropped her latest album, Rated R.

Looking back, Rihanna says the biggest lesson she learned is that "love is blind."

"The bruises fade away," she says. "But the thing that stays with you is the emotional scars."

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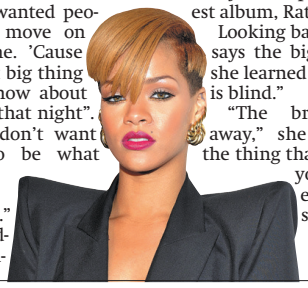


Courtney loses Frances

POOR KID Courtney Love has lost custody of her daughter Frances Bean with the late Kurt Cobain, according to People magazine. A California court has appointed Wendy O'Connor and Kimberly Cobain, the 17-year-old girl's grandmother and aunt, her legal guardians, and the two women now have authority over the Frances Bean's education, health care and living situation.

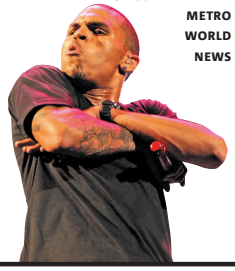
METRO WORLD NEWS

Chris Brown flies the Twitter coup

NO MORE TWEETS Just days after using Twitter to blast Walmart and other retailers for apparently refusing to carry his new album, Chris Brown has cancelled his account with the microblogging site.

The sudden departure comes after Walmart released a statement addressing his complaints saying, "We are surprised at the comments online. All Walmart stores nationwide have carried the CD since its release, including the Wallingford store mentioned in the post. This store actually sold through its initial shipment over the weekend."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Celebrity tweets

Stephen Fry can't resist a bad pun, Sandra Bernhard is politically motivated, Nick Cannon is a frequent flyer and Rainn Wilson really needs to get off Twitter.

• @stephenfry Busy in studio all morning voicing narration for a 5 part doc on Delia. Fingering a Shetland. (Feeling a little horse/hoarse geddit? Lol)

• @SandraBernhard up and I mean up. Thinking about joe leiberman, he really touches me and that makes me violent.

• @NickCannon Just landed back in ny. Just for the day. Time to grind, then back to La tonight. Let's get it!

• @rainnwilson I had a dream where I twittered about a dream I was having.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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(1) See store for details. Bonus gift available with new activations only. While quantities last.

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Today Variable -11°/ -20°
Thursday Partly cloudy -15° / -22°
Friday Variable -14°/ -23°

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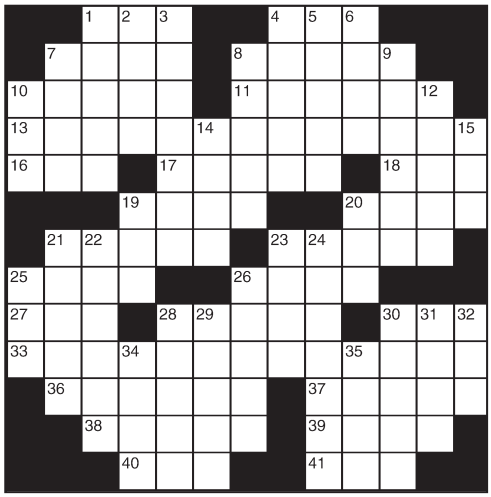

ACROSS

1 Massage
4 Acorn producer
7 Parsley partner
8 "Sesame Street" character
10 Chamberlain nickname
11 Experts
13 Property of uranium, e.g.
16 Officeholders
17 Prepare to propose
18 "Golly!"
19 Apportion (out)
20 Writer Kingsley
21 Backbone
23 "I Know Who Killed Me" actress
25 Noisy
26 Broomcloset items
27 Dadaist painter
28 Spingarn Medal org.
30 Blackjack part
33 13-Across detector
36 Drool
37 Crystal-lined rock
38 Recording artist?
39 Title
40 Mound stat
41 Rds.

DOWN

1 Incursions
2 Wrinkly citrus
3 Give evidence of
4 Give a speech
5 Tiny bone in the ear
6 Chicken —
7 Ollie's pal
8 Host
9 Baffler
10 Lanka lead-in
12 Oktoberfest souvenir
14 Chip in a chip
15 "Certainly"
19 Central
20 Oohs' mates
21 Sensitive spots
22 Students
23 Crazy
24 Calls into question
25 Trail behind
26 PC user's shortcut
28 When pigs fly
29 Action venue
30 Fermi's particles
31 Relinquish
32 Before
34 Free entry
35 Tidy

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	4							2
		9	1					
2		8		7	4			5
					3		8	1
		4		1		7		
6	3		8					
9			7	5		8		3
					6	9		
8							5	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

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The Sims 3
$6.99 • The ever-popular computer game arrives on the iPhone. Customize your Sims, explore stunning 3-D worlds and experience everything "real" life has to offer.

Tom Tom U.S. & Canada
$99.99 • Turn your iPhone into a fully featured Sat Nav with Tom Tom's expert voice-guided turn-by-turn directions, automatic re-routing, and more. It even links with your contacts list to give you directions to any address.

CBC Radio
Free • Listen to CBC Radio on your iPhone. Tap into 19 live streams and over 60 popular programs on-demand. Browse archived episodes and create a favorites list for quick access to the programs you love.

Cooliris
Free • Bring the web's most interesting photos, videos and news right to your iPhone on an endlessly streaming wall. Browse content with the flick of a finger, then share via email or Twitter.

Wine Ph.D.
$4.99 • Go from wine novice to enthusiast in seconds. Just use your iPhone to search the Wine Ph.D. database by name, producer, varietal, region, food pairings or published ratings.

Local Concerts
Free • Want to know who's playing tonight? Local Concerts taps your music library and a large global database to notify you of upcoming shows. Browse events by date or venue, then buy tickets right from your iPhone.

TuneWiki
Free • Listening to music on your iPhone and want to know the lyrics? TuneWiki serves up lyrics to songs from your iTunes library so you can follow along as the song is playing.

Epicurious
Free • Can't decide on dinner? Get Epicurious recipes right on your iPhone. Search by type, what's in your fridge or what's in season. Then make a shopping list with the touch of a button.

Barista
$2.99 • Let your iPhone teach you how to make coffee-shop quality espresso, even when you're at home with step-by-step directions on everything from pulling the perfect shot to pouring latte art.

GoodGuide
Free • Shop green with your iPhone. Now you can easily check the health, environmental and social impact of over 70,000 products, from food to toys, on the go and before you buy.

Mover
Free • Now it's easier than ever for two iPhones to share stuff. With just the swipe of a finger, you can transfer photos, contacts and more to another iPhone over the same WiFi network.

Rocket Taxi
$1.99 • Ever notice cabs are scarce when you need one? Using your iPhone's built-in GPS feature, Rocket Taxi will find a taxi closest to you. Then all you have to do is tap to call for your ride.

AroundMe
Free • When travel takes you to a new place, AroundMe can quickly find nearby businesses from the nearest bank to the closest gas station then route them for you using your iPhone's GPS.

Convertbot
$0.99 • Convert currency, length, mass, time and more. Convertbot's simple, intuitive interface makes conversion easy, even handling mixed units, like feet and inches.

It's amazing how much stuff you can do with an iPhone. With all kinds of apps to help with everything from shopping to gaming to cooking to tweeting. In fact, there are over 90,000 apps for just about anything, only on the iPhone.

Bell | iPhone 3GS

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